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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

MEETINGS OF THE CHAMBER OF PRINCES (NARENDRA MANDAL)

Held at New Delhi on the 24th and 25th February 1937

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AGENDA.

CHAMBER OF PRINCES.

February 1937.

1. Resolution of condolence by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur on the demise of His late Majesty King George V.

2. Resolution of felicitations and expression of loyalty by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur to His Majesty King George VI.

3. Resolution of welcome by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur to His Excellency the Marquess of Linlithgow as Viceroy of India.

4. Resolution of condolence by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur on the demise of Their late Highnesses the Mir of Khairpur, the Raja of Chamba, the Raja of Rajgarh and the Nawab of Radhanpur.

5. Resolution of welcome by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur to Their Highnesses the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior, the Maharaja of Cooch-Behar, the Nawab of Radhanpur, the Mir of Khairpur, the Raja of Rajgarh and the Raja of Chamba.

6. To receive a statement from His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur reviewing the work performed by the Chamber of Princes during the last two years.

7. To receive from His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur the reports of Sir S. M. Bapna and Sir V. T. Krishnamachari regarding their work as representatives of India at the meetings of the League of Nations held in 1935 and 1936 respectively.

8. To consider the recommendation of the Standing Committee regarding the Mail Robbery Rules.

9. To consider the recommendation of the Standing Committee regarding amending Resolution No. F.-164-Pol. of 1929, dated the 7th September 1929, on the subject of the employment in Indian States of European British subjects, pensioners and aliens, etc., etc.

10. Elections of—

(i) The Chancellor,

(ii) The Pro-Chancellor, and

(iii) The Standing Committee.

WORK-CARD.

CHAMBER OF PRINCES (NARENDRA MANDAL).

(To be held at the Princes' Chamber, Council House, New Delhi, at 11 a.m.)

February 1937.

Wednesday, the 24th February 1937.

1. His Excellency the Viceroy will on arrival greet the Members and Representative Members who will be presented individually by His Highness the Chancellor.

2. His Excellency the Viceroy will deliver an address.

3. Resolution of condolence by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur on the demise of His late Majesty King George V. (Agendum No. 1).

4. Resolution of felicitations and expression of loyalty by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur to His Majesty King George VI. (Agendum No. 2).

5. Resolution of welcome by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur to His Excellency the Marquess of Linlithgow as Viceroy of India. (Agendum No. 3).

6. Resolution of condolence by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur on the demise of Their late Highnesses the Mir of Khairpur, the Raja of Chamba, the Raja of Rajgarh and the Nawab of Radhanpur. (Agendum No. 4).

7. Resolution of welcome by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur to Their Highnesses the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior, the Maharaja of Cooch-Behar, the Nawab of Radhanpur, the Mir of Khairpur, the Raja of Rajgarh and the Raja of Chamba. (Agendum No. 5).

8. To receive a statement from His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur reviewing the work performed by the Chamber of Princes during the last two years. (Agendum No. 6).

Thursday, the 25th February 1937.

1. To receive from His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur the reports of Sir S. M. Bapna and Sir V. T. Krishnamachari regarding their work as representatives of India at the meetings of the League of Nations held in 1935 and 1936 respectively. (Agendum No. 7).

2. To consider the recommendation of the Standing Committee regarding the Mail Robbery Rules. (Agendum No. 8).

3. To consider the recommendation of the Standing Committee regarding amending Resolution No. F.-164-Pol. of 1929, dated the 7th September 1929, on the subject of the employment in Indian States of European British subjects, pensioners and aliens. etc., etc. (Agendum No. 9).

4. Elections of—

(i) The Chancellor,

(ii) The Pro-Chancellor, and

(iii) The Standing Committee. (Agendum No. 10).

5. Reply of the Members and Representative Members to His Excellency the Viceroy's address.

6. His Excellency the Viceroy will then conclude the proceedings.

Memorandum Explanatory of Agendum No. 1.

The following resolution will be moved by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur:—

"The Ruling Princes and Chiefs of India represented in this Chamber request His Excellency the Viceroy to convey to His Imperial Majesty the King Emperor and the Royal family the expression of their profound sorrow and grief on the sad demise of His late Majesty King George V, Emperor of India, to whose abiding interest in and great sympathy with the Order of Princes this Chamber owes its existence, and their deepest condolences to Her Majesty the Queen Mother and other members of the Royal family."

Memorandum Explanatory of Agendum No. 2.

The following resolution will be moved by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur:—

"The Ruling Princes and Chiefs of India represented in this Chamber request His Excellency the Viceroy to convey to His Imperial Majesty King George VI, Emperor of India, the expression of their profound and steadfast loyalty to the Person and Throne of His Majesty, and their felicitations on his accession to the Throne and their earnest prayer that His Majesty may live long to rule over the Empire and that his reign may further cement the bonds of loyalty which link the States of India with the Crown and the Empire."

Memorandum Explanatory of Agendum No. 3.

The following resolution will be moved by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur:—

"The Chamber of Princes offers a hearty welcome to His Excellency the Marquess of Linlithgow on his assumption of the office of Viceroy and Governor-General of India and tenders its sincerest good wishes to His Excellency."

Memorandum Explanatory of Agendum No. 4.

The following resolution will be moved by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur:—

"The Chamber of Princes records its heartfelt sorrow on the demise of Their late Highnesses the Mir of Khairpur, the Raja of Chamba, the Raja of Rajgarh and the Nawab of Radhanpur, together with its sense of loss thereby sustained by the entire Order of the Princes and offers its sincere sympathies and condolences to the bereaved families."

Memorandum Explanatory of Agendum No. 5.

The following resolution will be moved by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur:—

> "The Chamber of Princes offers its heartiest congratulations to Their Highnesses the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior and the Maharaja of Cooch-Behar on their investiture with ruling powers and to Their Highnesses the Mir of Khairpur, the Nawab of Radhanpur, the Raja of Rajgarh and the Raja of Chamba on their succession, and wishes them a long and prosperous rule."

Memorandum Explanatory of Agendum No. 7.

The following resolution will be moved by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur:—

> "The Chamber places on record its appreciation of the work done by Sir S. M. Bapna and Sir V. T. Krishnamachari as the representatives of the States on the Indian Delegation to the League of Nations, 1935 and 1936 respectively."

Memorandum Explanatory of Agendum No. 8.

In paragraph 102 of their Report, the Indian States Committee recommended either the abrogation or a thorough revision of the Mail Robbery Rules of 1885, and suggested that the question should be settled by Conference in the ordinary way. The question was discussed at the meeting of the Standing Committee held on the 25th February 1933. In the meanwhile the Government of India have given further consideration to the question and have come to the conclusion that these rules are no longer necessary and can be abrogated forthwith. It is accordingly proposed to issue the following resolution:—

"RESOLUTION.

MAIL ROBBERIES IN INDIAN STATES.

The Government of India have had under their consideration the revision of the rules contained in their Foreign Department Resolution No. 2495-I., dated the 29th July 1885, defining the responsibility of Indian States in connection with robberies of Imperial mail and parcel post within their territories. Their tentative conclusions were placed before the Standing Committee of the Chamber of Princes in February 1933, who desired to have the matter examined by a Committee of Ministers. The result of this examination has not, however, been communicated to the Government of India.

In the meanwhile the Government of India have given further consideration to the question and have come to the conclusion that these rules are no longer necessary. It has therefore been decided to abrogate them forthwith. The abrogation of these rules will not of course affect in any way the inherent responsibility of States' administrations for the proper protection of mails in transit in their territories."

Memorandum Explanatory of Agendum No. 9.

Experience of the working of the Resolution by the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department, No. F.-164-Political of 1929, dated the 7th September 1929 (Annexure I), has shown that certain amplifications are desirable and it is proposed to issue an amending resolution accordingly.

2. Under clause I (*b*) of para. 2 of the existing resolution which reproduces in substance the relevant provision of previous resolutions on the subject, the consent of the Government of India is required to the employment by Darbars of Indian States of any retired member of the Indian Civil Service whether he had previously served in the Political Department or not. It has been found, however, that the existing clause owing to its wording is liable to be misconstrued as implying that the consent of the Government of India is required to the employment of only such retired Indian Civil Service officers as had previously served in the Political Department. In order, therefore, to remove the possibility of such misconstruction it is proposed that the two classes of officers mentioned in this clause, namely, retired members of the Indian Civil Service and officers who have previously served in the Political Department, should be placed in two distinct categories.

3. The existing clause 2-V does not define the term "temporary engagements" and it is felt that a time-limit for such engagements should be specified. It is considered that it should be laid down that the expression connotes temporary employment for a period not exceeding three months whether continuous or otherwise.

4. The proposed amendments as in the attached draft (Annexure II) were considered and agreed to at the meeting of the Standing Committee held on the 20th January 1937 and are now for the consideration of the Chamber of Princes.

Annexure I.

No. F.-164-POLITICAL OF 1929.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FOREIGN AND POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

RESOLUTION.

Simla, the 7th September 1929.

The Government of India have had under consideration the question of the revision of their policy in regard to the employment in Indian States of European British subjects, pensioners and aliens, other than those to whom the Foreign Service Rules apply.

2. In January 1920 a summary of the policy of the Government of India as then obtaining was placed before the Committee of Princes as a basis for discussion. This summary, together with the recommendations of the Committee, was circulated to Local Governments, Political Officers and Darbars for an expression of their views, and summaries of the replies received were placed before the Standing Committee of the Chamber of Princes in August 1924. A revised summary was prepared in accordance with the recommendations of the Standing Committee, and was accepted by the Chamber of Princes in November 1924. The views of the Local Governments and Administrations and Darbars were invited upon this revised summary, and, after careful consideration of the replies received, a summary further revised was drawn up and discussed with the Standing Committee of the Chamber in December 1927. The summary, as again revised by the Committee, was approved by the Chamber of Princes at its session in February 1928. As a result of subsequent consultation with the Secretary of State for India certain further modifications were incorporated in the latest summary. These were discussed with the Standing Committee at its meeting in January 1929, and were accepted by them, subject to slight verbal amendments. The more important changes in the summary were explained in His Excellency the Viceroy's opening speech at the session of the Chamber of Princes held in February 1929. With the approval of His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, the Government of India are now pleased, in supersession of their previous instructions on the subject, to announce the procedure to be observed in future.

I. The consent of the Government of India is required for the employment in Indian States of—

(*a*) European British subjects on a salary exceeding Rs. 700 per mensem.

(*b*) Retired members of the Indian Civil Service or retired officers, whether European British subjects or Indians, who have served in the Political Department of the Government of India.

(*c*) Retired military officers, whether European British subjects or Indians, who have held the King's Commission in the regular forces, whose services are required in a military capacity.

(*d*) Aliens (including Americans) in any capacity.

Proviso 1.—The Government of India should be informed as soon as possible of the engagement of European British subjects below the salary limit above specified. Such particulars as are available regarding these persons should be communicated at the same time.

Proviso 2.—In the case of European British subjects engaged outside India for employment in India, on a salary not exceeding Rs. 200 per mensem (including due consideration for board and lodging whenever allowed) the consent of the Secretary of State for India should be obtained to the actual terms of the contracts proposed to be entered into with such persons before an appointment is made.

Proviso 3.—In the event of the officers described in sub-paragraphs (*b*) and (*c*) above being subjects of the State concerned, the Government of India should be only informed before their actual employment.

II. In all cases where a retired officer of the Indian Political Department has been employed by an Indian State with the consent of the Government of India, no substantial change in the nature of his duties should be made without the further consent of the Government of India.

III. In cases of emergency there is no objection to provisional appointments being made by Ruling Princes and Chiefs, subject to the subsequent consent of Government, which will be asked for as soon as possible.

IV. Subject to clause I above, there is no restriction on the employment in Indian States of Indian pensioners of all classes.

V. The consent of the Government of India will not be required in the case of the temporary engagement of professional people, such as barristers, doctors, nurses, etc., on payment of the usual fees.

3. All Local Governments and Administrations and the Political Officers noted in the margin have the power of sanctioning the employment, in any capacity, of persons described in Clause I(*a*) and (*d*), (read with *proviso* 1) in the Indian States under their political control, subject to the understanding that in each case before sanction is accorded, full enquiry will be made into the character and antecedents of the person whose services a Darbar may propose to engage. The question of the emoluments to be given in each case is left unreservedly to the discretion of Darbars, and no further sanction is needed for the extension of the period of engagement of any such person.

The Resident at Hyderabad.
The Resident in Mysore.
The Agent to the Governor-General in Central India.
The Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana.
The Agent to the Governor-General in Baluchistan.
The Agent to the Governor-General in the States of Western India.
The Agent to the Governor-General, Punjab States.
The Agent to the Governor-General, Madras States.
The Resident at Baroda.
The Resident in Kashmir.
The Resident at Gwalior.
The Political Officer in Sikkim.

C. C. WATSON,

Political Secretary to the Government of India.

Copy to—

1. The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department.
2. The Chief Secretary to the Government of the United Provinces.
3. The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.
4. The Chief Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.
5. The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa.
6. The Chief Secretary to the Government of the Central Provinces.
7. The Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam.
8. The Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore.
9. The Hon'ble the Agent to the Governor General in Central India.
10. The Hon'ble the Agent to the Governor General in Rajputana.
11. The Hon'ble the Agent to the Governor General in the States of Western India.
12. The Hon'ble the Agent to the Governor General, Punjab States.
13. The Agent to the Governor General, Madras States.
14. The Resident at Baroda.
15. The Resident in Kashmir.
16. The Resident at Gwalior.
17. The Political Officer in Sikkim.

for information and communication to—

1. The Darbars of States in Bombay.
2. The Darbars of States in the United Provinces.
3. The Darbars of States in Bengal.
4. The Darbars of States in the Punjab.
5. The Darbars of States in Bihar and Orissa.
6. The Darbars of States in the Central Provinces.
7. The Manipur Darbar.
8. The Mysore Darbar.
9. The Darbars of States in Central India.
10. The Darbars of States in Rajputana.
11. The Darbars of States in the Western India States Agency.
12. The Darbars of States in the Punjab States Agency.
13. The Darbars of States in the Madras States Agency.
14. The Baroda Darbar.
15. The Kashmir Darbar.
16. The Gwalior Darbar.
17. The Sikkim Darbar.

Copy to—

1. The Home Department.
2. The Department of Education, Health and Lands.
3. The Army Department.
4. The Legislative Department.
5. The Department of Industries and Labour.
6. The Railway Department (Railway Board).
7. The Department of Commerce.
8. The Finance Department.
9. The Financial Adviser, Military Finance.
10. The Accountant General, Central Revenues.
11. The Central Board of Revenue.
12. The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.
13. The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma.
14. The Hon'ble the Chief Commissioner and Agent to the Governor General, North-West Frontier Province.
15. The Hon'ble the Agent to the Governor General in Baluchistan.
16. The Hon'ble the Resident at Hyderabad.
17. The Hon'ble the Chief Commissioner, Delhi.
18. The Military Adviser-in-Chief, Indian States Forces.

For information.

Attested.

Superintendent, Foreign and Political Department.

Annexure II.

CORRIGENDA.

In the Resolution by the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department No. F.-164-Political of 1929, dated the 7th September 1929, for the existing clause 2, I (*b*) *substitute*—

(*b*) Retired members of the Indian Civil Service.

(*c*) Retired officers who have served in the Political Department of the Government of India.

2. *Reclassify* existing clauses "2. I(*c*) and (*d*)" as "2. I(*d*) and (*e*)".

3. In clause 2, I—Proviso 3 *for* "sub-paragraphs (*b*) and (*c*)" *read* "sub-paragraphs (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*)".

4. *For* the existing clause 2 V *substitute*—

"The consent of the Government of India will not be required in the case of the temporary engagement of professional people, such as barristers, doctors, nurses, etc., on payment of the usual fees, provided that the total period of such engagement, whether continuous or non-continuous, does not exceed three months."

5. In clause 3 *for* the words "I(*a*) and (*d*)" *read* "I (*a*) and (*c*)".

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST DAY.

The 24th February 1937.

The Chamber assembled at the Princes' Chamber, Council House, at 11 A.M. on Wednesday, the 24th February 1937. His Excellency the Viceroy presided.

The following Ruling Princes and Chiefs were present:—

Assam.

His Highness the Maharaja of Manipur.

Central India States.

His Highness the Nawab of Baoni.
His Highnes the Maharaja of Dewas (Junior).
The Raja of Maihar.
His Highness the Maharaja of Rewa.
His Highness the Raja of Sailana.
His Highness the Raja of Sitamau.

Deccan States.

The Raja of Jamkhandi.
His Highness the Nawab of Janjira.
The Raja of Phaltan.

Eastern States.

His Highness the Maharaja of Cooch Behar.
The Raja of Korea.
The Raja of Sakti.
The Raja of Seraikela.

Gujarat States.

The Raja of Chhota Udepur.
The Nawab of Sachin.

Gwalior Agency.

His Highness the Maharaja of Benares.
His Highness the Nawab of Rampur.

Madras States.

The Nawab of Banganapalle.

Punjab States.

His Highness the Nawab of Bahawalpur.
His Highness the Raja of Bilaspur.
His Highness the Raja of Faridkot.
The Nawab of Loharu.
His Highness the Nawab of Malerkotla.
His Highness the Raja of Mandi.
His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala.
His Highness the Maharaja of Sirmur.
His Highness the Raja of Suket.
His Highness the Maharaja of Tehri (Garhwal).

Rajputana States.

His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner.
The Maharana of Danta.
His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur.
His Highness the Maharawal of Dungarpur.
His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Jhalawar.
His Highness the Maharao of Kotah.
His Highness the Maharawat of Partabgarh.

Western India States.

His Highness the Maharaja of Bhavnagar.
His Highness the Maharao of Cutch.
His Highness the Maharaja of Dhrangadhra.
The Chief of Jasdan.
His Highness the Maharaja of Nawanagar.
His Highness the Maharana Raj Saheb of Wankaner.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY'S SPEECH AT THE OPENING OF THE 14TH SESSION OF THE CHAMBER OF PRINCES ON THE 24TH FEBRUARY 1937.

YOUR HIGHNESSES,—

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Your Highnesses this morning on the first occasion on which I have had the honour to address the Chamber of Princes. I am glad to see such a large and representative attendance of Princes at this, the 14th Session, since the inauguration of this Chamber.

It is now just two years since the Chamber of Princes last met. In this interval we and the whole of the British Empire have had to mourn the passing of a Sovereign greatly beloved, His late Majesty King George the Fifth. Many of Your Highnesses had the honour of His late Majesty's personal acquaintance, and throughout his long reign he was known to all as a true and sympathetic friend of the Indian Princes, in the welfare and progress of whose Order he always took so close and personal an interest. In His Majesty King George the Sixth I know that Your Highnesses will have no less firm a friend, who in this as in many other matters will follow the high example left him by his august Father I will say no more on these subjects now, as I see that there are upon your Agenda loyal Resolutions to be moved by His Highness the Chancellor.

Since last this Chamber met, the Princely Order has suffered severe loss by the deaths of no less than six Rulers. I would refer in particular first to His late Highness the Raja of Rajgarh, whose long rule of 20 years was brought to a close by his death last October. He was a beneficent ruler, whose passing will have been a source of sorrow to his people as well to the whole of his Order. Others whose deaths we deplore are Their Highnesses of Chamba, of Khairpur, of Radhanpur, the *ex*-Raja of Samthar, and the Maharani of Bastar, who was a member of the Representative Electorate of this Chamber. I would express on behalf of Your Highnesses as well as myself our very deep sympathy with all those who have been bereaved by these deaths. To the successors to these Rulers I would express our warm congratulation on their accession and our confident hope that they will continue to maintain the high traditions of their Order, as well as to bear worthily the heavy responsibilities which must henceforth rest upon their shoulders.

We welcome Their Highnesses of Gwalior and Cooch Behar, who have been invested with their Ruling Powers since last this Chamber met, and we trust that they will take an active part in the deliberations of this Chamber. The Raja of Nagod has also recently been invested with Ruling Powers on the termination of his minority and has become a member of the Representative Electorate. I would congratulate also on their recent succession His Highness the Mir of Khairpur and His Highness the Nawab of Radhanpur.

To turn now for a moment to the international field, I would refer with warm appreciation—and I feel sure that in doing so I shall be voicing the sentiments of all of Your Highnesses—to the work of Sir Seray Mal Bapna in 1935 and of Sir V. T. Krishnamachari in 1936 as Members of the Indian Delegation to the League of Nations. Their reports are to be laid before Your Highnesses in the course of this Session and will, I know, be studied with the keenest interest.

My distinguished predecessor Lord Willingdon informed Your Highnesses in 1935 of the advance that had up to that time been made in the policy of bringing all the Indian States into direct relations with the Government of India. That process has recently been completed, a fact which I trust Your Highnesses will regard as a cause for satisfaction; though I would not wish to appear in any way to minimise the reality of the debt of gratitude towards those Provincial Governments with whom they have for so long been in such close relationship which I know those Rulers naturally feel. But the change is one that is demanded alike by logic and the force of circumstances altered as they are by the advent of new constitutional conditions in India.

Your Highnesses are aware of the steps taken by me since I assumed charge of my present office, designed to assist individual Rulers in reaching, at an early date, a decision in regard to their attitude towards the Federation of India. I am encouraged by the communications that I have received from many quarters to believe that the discussions that have taken place with my representatives have been of assistance and have served to clarify a number of points. I can frankly tell your Highnesses that one outcome of those discussions has been to present in a new light to my own mind more than one aspect of this many-sided problem. The substance of those discussions has now been collated and is being subjected to close examination. My strong hope is that means may be found in the not too distant future, to reach conclusions satisfactory to all concerned. Your Highnesses are, I know, as fully alive as I am to the importance, at the stage which we have now reached, of a very early decision as to your attitude towards the Federal Scheme. You can rely on me to continue as in the past to do all in my power to help you in reaching that decision by placing at the disposal of the Princely Order all such assistance as I properly can.

I will not longer detain Your Highnesses from proceeding with the Agenda which you have before you. In all the matters which come up for your consideration I am very confident that Your Highnesses will keep before you the true interests of your several States, the welfare of the Princely Order, and the highest good of India and of the Empire.

Agendum No. 1.

Resolution of condolence by His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur on the demise of His late Majesty King George V.

His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur: Your Excellency; Your Highnesses: We met here last time in January 1935. We then passed a resolution, which was as genuine as it was spontaneous, requesting His Excellency, Lord Willingdon, to convey to His late Majesty King George V of revered memory, profound feelings of loyalty and attachment of the Ruling Princes of India, to His Person and Throne on the auspicious occasion of the Silver Jubilee of His late Majesty's beneficent and glorious reign.

The year that followed has been full of anxiety and sorrow to us all. The relentless purpose of dramatic destiny excited in our hearts not only wonder and awe at the will of the Almighty, but deep and genuine sorrow when the cruel hand of fate removed from the midst of his loving people that great monarch.

The spontaneous outburst of intense feelings of extreme anxiety which was witnessed at the time of His Majesty's last illness will live in history as a glowing testimony of the love and respect in which His late Majesty was held throughout the Empire. Love and respect was not confined to the boundaries of our Empire only, but went far beyond and never in living memory has the pall of sorrow at the death of a single individual enshrouded the whole world as it did on that fateful day, the 20th of January 1936.

The ominous saying "misfortunes never come singly" has been fully experienced by us all in the year 1936. The year 1936 has indeed been one of unparalleled misfortune for the Empire. It is inevitable that the departure of a King Emperor, especially of one with whom they have to be in personal touch, should awaken in the hearts of the Indian Princes a profound and genuine feeling of sorrow and regret.

Your Excellency knows in what high esteem the Sovereign is held in India generally, but with us, the Princes, who are bound to the Throne and Person of the King Emperor by ties peculiar to ourselves, the anxiety and concern followed by sorrow and grief was intense. The attachment and devotion of the Princes to the Person of His Majesty the King Emperor needs no formal expression at any time, because history is a witness and will confirm that our attachment can at no time be described as insincere or our loyalties as of a provisional nature.

In India Your Excellency knows what personal touch means. His late Imperial Majesty with his sagacious foresight established that contact and personal touch with this country which we all value above everything else. Consequently he truly endeared himself to the Princes of India. To establish that contact in this country he visited us as Prince of Wales and then as Emperor at the time of his coronation. This gave us the opportunity to know him personally and realise the depth of his feelings towards us for our welfare in every way. It was in his great reign that the Empire rose to unprecedented heights, the solidarity of which was witnessed by the whole world during that Great War from 1914—18.

To-day that great central figure and binding force has been taken away by Providence from us, but he has by his untiring beneficial activities left behind him a legacy of universal good will and gratitude in millions of hearts in the Empire. This has been translated by those many millions in their constant prayer to the Almighty for his noble spirit. Your Excellency, it is to my mind the greatest achievement for any human soul that so many million hearts with sincerity and gratefulness should pray for it.

With these words I move the following Resolution:—

Resolution I.

"The Ruling Princes and Chiefs of India, represented in this Chamber, request His Excellency the Viceroy to convey to His Imperial Majesty the King Emperor, the expression of their profound sorrow and grief on the sad demise of King George V, Emperor of India, to whose abiding interests in and great sympathies with the Order of Princes this Chamber owes its existence, together with their deepest and sincere condolences to Her Majesty the Queen Mother in her irreparable loss and other Princes of the Ruling Family."

His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner: Your Excellency; Your Highnesses; I have the honour to second this resolution.

The Chamber of Princes meets for the first time today after the melancholy event of some thirteen months ago which caused such a sudden and grievous bereavement to the whole Empire. And it will be vividly recalled how all classes and communities throughout the length and breadth of India with one voice mourned the loss of a great and gracious King and a great man so dearly beloved and revered in Great Britain and all parts of the British Empire and held in the highest esteem throughout the world. And the passage of time has in no way lessened our grief.

Sir, those brought in close contact with His late Imperial Majesty—like myself who had the honour of serving him as Honorary Aide-de-Camp for no less than 33½ years—had, if I may say so, almost daily evidence of his high ideals of Kingship, his conscientious and courageous devotion to duty, his love and sympathy for his peoples—which India had the pride and privilege of winning in a very especial measure—and his kindly and genial nature.

I will not dwell on the practically incessant period of stress and storm, including the anxious and weary years of the Great War, which coincided with His late Imperial Majesty's Reign.

Had he not been King and Emperor, but a private individual with an opportunity sufficiently to rest and recuperate after his serious illness of 1928-29, he might still have been amongst us to-day. But that was not like King George, who, almost up to his last moment, continued to devote himself to the duties which the Almighty had ordained for him. What nobler example can there be for any man in any walk of life?

And I make bold to assert that the name of King George V of blessed and beloved memory will be remembered by many a generation with the veneration and affection to which his lifelong work justly entitled him.

The Raja of Korea: It is a great privilege to me to associate myself with the resolution which His Highness the Chancellor has moved to pay a tribute to the memory of His late Imperial Majesty, King George V, and to express our sorrow on his sad demise. It is unnecessary for me to say what an irreparable loss our order has sustained in his most lamentable death. His late Imperial Majesty's life and achievements have been a source of great inspiration to us and we have always regarded him as the embodiment of all the high ideals of kingship. He combined in himself in a remarkable degree the rare qualities of head and heart which distinguish a great ruler. His constant devotion to his duty and his fatherly regard for his people, as has just been remarked by the previous speaker, readily won for him universal esteem and made him a model for us to follow in our humble spheres. The illustrious reign of his late Majesty King George V was distinguished by an all round and varied progress in the British Isles and the Empire, by valuable contributions it made to the cause of world peace and by great reforms and constitutional changes which it brought about at home and in the Empire. As His Highness the Chancellor has remarked, it was not long ago that we had the opportunity and pleasure of celebrating His late Majesty's 25 years of rule resplendent with great activities, and we had hardly finished taking stock of his great deeds when to our great misfortune he was removed by the hand of Providence from our midst and we have been left to mourn the loss of a great ruler.

This Chamber, as His Highness the Chancellor has remarked, owes its existence to His late Majesty's kindness and regard for the Princely order

and it will ever stand as a memorial of his great interest and solicitude for the welfare of our order in providing a Council for the discussion of matters pertaining to the States and subjects of common concern to British India and the States.

With these words I respectfully associate myself with the Resolution moved by His Highness of Dholpur.

His Highness the Raja of Mandi: Your Excellency, Your Highnesses, I rise to lend my whole-hearted support to the Resolution which has been so ably and eloquently moved by His Highness the Maharaja Sahib of Dholpur. The very sudden passing away early last year of His Imperial Majesty, King George V, of revered and beloved memory has been a great and fateful calamity for the British Commonwealth of Nations, to which we Indian Princes are proud to belong. His late Majesty's keen and abiding interest in the welfare and progress of the Empire and particularly of India, his indomitable courage and fortitude, particularly during the dark days of the Great War, and His late Majesty's unmeasured sacrifice in the larger and greater interests of the Empire as a whole had won for him the love and admiration of all, and a reputation which was both envied and enviable. His late Majesty was not only a great constitutional king and ruler, but also, as has been acclaimed all over the world, a great gentleman. His example of courage and devotion to duty during the whole of his glorious reign, and particularly during the black war years, was a great asset and encouragement to all who struggled against an array of circumstances for their king and country. His late Majesty has by his perfect life set a wonderful example of true and high sense of duty for all times to come, an example which we shall always try our utmost to follow. Your Excellency we mourn the loss of our late Sovereign today with one heart and pray with one voice that the great architect of human destiny may shower his blessings on the very noble and high soul.

His Excellency the Viceroy: Your Highnesses have heard the Resolution moved, seconded and supported. Is it your pleasure that this Resolution be passed?

(The Resolution was carried unanimously, all standing.)

Agendum No. 2.

Resolution of felicitations and expression of loyalty by His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur to His Majesty King George VI.

His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur: Your Excellency, Your Highnesses: It is hardly necessary for me to repeat how deep-seated and spontaneous is the loyalty and attachment of the Ruling Princes of India to the Throne and Person of His Majesty King Emperor. This loyalty has been tested and proved both in times of Peace and War. This Bond has never shown slightest sign of slackening ever since it was graciously tied by the Great Queen Victoria who in her historic proclamation declared:—

> "We shall respect rights, dignity and honour of Princes as Our own."

Such words coming as they did from the Sovereign have been enshrined in our hearts.

His Majesty King George the Sixth sits on that throne of his illustrious predecessors today, and we hope that he will be helped by the

Almighty in his new and unprecedented responsibilities, which he has to face at this juncture. He has the advantage of knowing those many sided activities of his illustrious predecessor, which truly endear the King Emperor to India and the Empire.

His Majesty today is no stranger to us all. In his late father's great reign, he took prominent part in the many activities in other parts of his Empire, and we hope that before long he will visit his Indian Empire and personally come into touch with the people of this great land.

With these few words and with all sincere wishes, I move the following resolution:—

> "The Ruling Princes and Chiefs of India represented in this Chamber request His Excellency the Viceroy to convey to His Imperial Majesty King George VI, Emperor of India, the expression of their profound and steadfast loyalty to the Person and Throne of His Majesty, and their felicitations on his accession to the Throne and their earnest prayer that His Majesty may live long to rule over the Empire and his reign may further cement the bonds of loyalty which link the States of India with the Crown and the Empire."

His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala: Your Excellency, Your Highnesses: It is my proud privilege to rise to second the Resolution moved by His Highness the acting Chancellor and to associate myself wholeheartedly with the sentiments of devotion and attachment to King George VI that he has expressed on behalf of the Princes of India. The loyalty of the rulers of the Indian States to the throne and person of His Imperial Majesty is traditional and does not require reiteration from me. The King Emperor is a great symbol of unity and the embodiment in himself of the conception of a co-operative commonwealth containing different races, peoples and creeds. But he is more than that in his relations with the Indian States. The King of England stands in intimate and direct relation with the Princes of India. It is to him that we look for the protection of our rights and for the continuance of our privileges. The tradition of the House of Windsor so nobly expressed by Queen Victoria of blessed memory that the honour and dignity of the Indian Princes is its own and so unswervingly maintained by three generations of sovereigns is to us the cherished guarantee of our position. As one who has had the honour and privilege of serving on the staff of His late Majesty and in that capacity had occasions to know the deep sympathy and consideration which the Imperial Family has invariably shown towards the Indian Princes, I may be permitted to say that in this reign, as in those of His Majesty's predecessors, the Princes and States of India will find in their Emperor—one who is always ready to maintain them in their position and dignity and uphold their just rights and privileges. The loyalty of the Princes of India is based on no selfish motive. It is inherent in their attitude towards the power under the shadow of which they live in peace and prosperity. They recognise that in the changing circumstances of this troubled world the Crown of England stands alone and unquestioned in its sway and majesty, and nothing will shake their loyalty and attachment to an institution which they revere and to which they are bound by so many ties of gratitude. His Imperial Majesty came to the throne in circumstances which were as unfortunate as they were delicate. It is not for us here to say anything of the decision that His former Majesty took in the matter which so affected his deepest sentiment, and we can do no more than pay respectful homage to the sympathy and consideration his

former Majesty showed to us when he was Emperor, and I have no doubt will continue to show to us in his changed circumstances. We are all looking forward to the visit of His Majesty and His Gracious Consort to India for his Coronation Durbar, when I am sure Prince and peasant alike will demonstrate their unswerving loyalty and staunch devotion to their King Emperor. I conclude with the prayer that, like his predecessors, His Majesty may prove the pride, the prop and the strength of the whole Empire, and to quote from the Resolution "cement further the bonds that link Indian States to the Crown and the British Empire".

His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner: Your Excellency; Your Highnesses; I have the honour respectfully to associate myself with this loyal Resolution.

In the disturbing and disintegrating conditions which obtain in the world to-day personality counts all the more. Hence throughout the vast and farflung British Empire there prevails a general feeling of thankfulness that in the short time that has elapsed since the King Emperor George VI ascended the Throne he has made it clear that he is determined to follow in the footsteps of his illustrious father, and has already given ample proof of his own deep devotion to duty and his regard for the well-being of his peoples.

It is my firm conviction that these and other qualities of head and heart of His Imperial Majesty, no less than the great example which he has set of a happy domestic life, so much valued in the East as well as in the West, are a good augury for the future and that they will further strengthen the bonds that link the component parts of the Empire to the Imperial Crown.

Loyalty and devotion to their Emperor are, thank God, very deeply ingrained in the minds of the people of India, and it is to be earnestly hoped that His Imperial Majesty, accompanied by Her Imperial Majesty the Queen-Empress, will be enabled before long to pay a visit to India where—despite a few politicians of a certain school of thought—I am convinced that a most loyal and warm welcome will assuredly await them from the Princes and people of the Indian States and millions in British India.

We have every hope that Their Imperial Majesties will be graciously pleased to vouchsafe to the Princes and States of India the same gracious interest and solicitude which it was our honour and good fortune to have received at the hands of His late Imperial Majesty King George V and our equally beloved Queen Empress Mary, and which in times of anxiety and sorrow have always been such a source of consolation and strength to the Princes and people of India. India in particular will join in the prayer that His Imperial Majesty may long be spared and that his Reign may under God's blessings be prosperous and happy.

His Highness the Maharaja of Rewa: Your Excellency, Your Highnesses: I feel it to be my proud privilege and a great honour to rise in order to associate myself with the Resolution and the sentiments expressed by Their Highnesses preceding me, with regard to the loyalty of our Order towards the person and throne of His Imperial Majesty. I am voicing the feelings of all present here when I say that His Highness has echoed the sentiments of the entire body of Princes whether present in the Chamber or not—and I wholeheartedly associate myself with every word that has been spoken. It is not necessary for me to say that the love,

devotion and loyalty of the Princes to the person and throne of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor is world renowned. Sir, India is a country where the person and throne of the King is held sacred. This idea is not skin-deep, but here it is ingrained in the very nature of the people and takes its roots in the tradition, religion and sentiments. There are besides further ties of a far more sacred nature which bind the Princes of India with the King-Emperor. These ties exist in the shape of treaties, whose inviolate and inviolable nature has been recognised by the assurances of the august occupants of the Imperial Throne for generations. It is, therefore, most natural that affection, gratitude and loyalty towards the person and throne of His Imperial Majesty should be our watchword and beacon-light. It is my constant prayer to Almighty that when the whole world seems to be brooding under the shadow of the powers of darkness, when constitutional changes of far-reaching character are looming on the political horizon of India, that on a historic and immemorable occasion like this, He may in His infinite mercy vouchsafe to the King-Emperor and His Imperial Consort a long and happy life to guide the destinies of the greatest Empire in the world over which the sun never sets and make his benign reign full of prosperity and contentment both to his Princes and his subjects alike. With these words I associate myself with the resolution.

His Highness the Raja of Bilaspur: Your Excellency, Your Highnesses: I would like to take the House to the memorable days of December last when Mr. Stanley Baldwin, the British Premier, declared in the House of Commons that our new Sovereign combined in himself the habits and dispositions of His late Imperial Majesty, King George V. History has often been found to repeat itself and it is my firm conviction that in the case of His Majesty it would do so, with this addition that, with all the noble qualities that his august father possessed His Majesty would bring into the Empire that personal touch and that idea of unity which is so essential in the present conditions that face us all. As the days pass, the link which the Crown has in the British Commonwealth of Nations grows stronger. It is not for me here in this House to emphasize the nature in which the Crown every day assumes greater importance, but suffice it to say that in the Throne and person of His Imperial Majesty is the very unity of the Empire. I might add that at this time when His Majesty has ascended the Throne grave international situations face modern civilisation. If we look towards the world at large we find signs of destructive influences which are affecting the very foundations of the democratic ideal. The British Commonwealth of Nations depends for its prestige, for its growth, and for its importance on those very democratic ideals, and I am sure that during the reign of His Majesty the institutions—democratic in this world—will triumph over all obstacles. With the coming in of the All-India Federation the States and British India alike are faced with a situation unparalleled in the history of the world. I believe and it is my firm conviction, and I may say so if I am permitted to do, that it is the conviction of the whole House assembled here that with the valuable assistance and advice of His Imperial Majesty the States will face with a firm attitude and with a good heart the changes that are necessary in the circumstances and will I am sure lead to a better understanding inside the Commonwealth. In the end I have only to say that the devotion in the minds of the Princes to the Throne and person of His Majesty is very deep. In the symbol of

the Crown they realise their unity and to it they look for the continuance of their existence in India. I am sure that with the change of times His Majesty will remain a steadfast and loyal well-wisher as well as the Sovereign of the State.

His Excellency the Viceroy: Your Highnesses have heard this Resolution moved, seconded and supported. Is it your pleasure that this Resolution be passed?

(The Resolution was carried unanimously.)

Agendum No. 3.

Resolution of welcome by His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur to His Excellency the Marquess of Linlithgow as Viceroy of India.

His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur: It is my privilege today on behalf of the Order of Princes to accord a cordial welcome to His Excellency Lord Linlithgow the Viceroy and the President of our Chamber.

We are today at the cross roads of the most momentous period since the Indo-British relations, when India is embarking on a tremendous constitutional experiment. His Majesty the King Emperor had to solve a difficult problem of choosing a Viceroy at this critical juncture and the choice fell on Your Excellency to occupy perhaps the most important chair in the Empire.

Your Excellency made your first acquaintance with this country in the year 1926 when a Commission to look into the problem of agriculture —which is the backbone of India, was sent out under Your Excellency's Chairmanship. Then Your Excellency was the Chairman of the Joint Parliamentary Committee of the two Houses of Parliament on the White Paper. The success which that body achieved was in no small measure due to the tact, statesmanship and sympathy which Your Excellency displayed in grappling with the multifarious and complicated problems which came before the Committee. It is, therefore, in the fitness of things that one who is in such large measure associated with the building up of this Constitution should have been called upon to put it into action.

During the past ten months that Your Excellency has been at the helm of affairs in this country, you have rightly realised that it is not only the constitutional changes that require all the attention but the welfare of the masses who belong to the Agricultural class. The interest which Your Excellency has taken in the question of the better breeding of cattle and the reconstruction of village economy has given a fillip to public thought in this direction.

Your Excellency's solicitude for the Order of the Princes was apparent to us all the day we received a communication to tell us that you are kindly sending your representatives to the States to talk to us on that all absorbing and important question of the Instrument of Accession and the Schedules in it. Because, the step thus taken by Your Excellency was one in which the States could ventilate to the full their own views and ascertain the views of the Government of India in a manner most friendly and illuminating.

We have all hopes in the future that as a representative of our King Emperor, like your illustrious predecessors. Your Excellency will prove now and in the delicate future a real friend of the Princes in every way.

Before I move the following resolution I must extend a very warm welcome to the Marchioness of Linlithgow, whose desire to promote the welfare of the women in India has been noticed by the whole country in un-mistakable manner.

I now move the following resolution with our sincere good wishes to Your Excellency and Her Excellency, for the acceptance of the House:—

> "The Chamber of Princes offers a hearty welcome to His Excellency the Marquess of Linlithgow on the assumption of office of the Viceroy and Governor-General of India and tenders its sincerest good wishes to His Excellency."

His Highness the Maharaja of Rewa: Your Excellency, Your Highnesses: It is a great honour to me that for a second time in succession, the privilege has been extended to me to rise and support a Resolution—this time the Resolution of welcome to Your Excellency as Viceroy and Governor General of India, moved by my brother, His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur, our Chancellor in such cordial terms. In according welcome to Your Excellency His Highness has not merely carried out a duty imposed upon him by convention but has voiced the real feelings and sentiments which the Princes of India cherish towards the Noble Representative in India of His Imperial Majesty the King Emperor. Your Excellency, it is true that the exalted position of the Viceroy in India should carry with it the greatest importance and highest responsibility that could attach to an office under the Crown, but I doubt if ever before a position required the display of high statesmanship and farsighted sagacity such as is required today, and it is a matter of sincere and widespread congratulation to all concerned that at this critical juncture in history of Indian States we have in Your Excellency a Viceroy who is so friendly and sympathetic to the wishes and aspirations of the Princely Order and so zealous to preserve their dignity and safeguard their rights and privileges unimpaired. India, as is known to everybody, is today on the eve of a new constitution which is unparalleled in the history of the world. The most vital question, therefore, exercising our minds is the future position of the Indian States under the new constitution, the maintenance of the rights and dignity and the preservation of their economic and financial stability. We feel confident that Your Excellency with your wide and varied experience, with your close and intimate knowledge of the new constitution, and with the earnest solicitude that you have for the wellbeing of the Princes, will not permit any such changes to take place as may in any manner adversely affect their cherished rights and interests. It is a matter of high gratification to everybody that Your Excellency does not come to India as a stranger but as a personal friend. Your appointment to this exalted office has been acclaimed with joy not by the Princes alone but also by the teeming millions of this land. Your Excellency's visit to this country as the Chairman of the Royal Commission on Agriculture will always be remembered with gratefulness and your valuable report on Agriculture will stand as an imperishable monument to Your Excellency's name in the country. Within a few months of Your Excellency's arrival in the country a manifestation of the deep interest that Your Excellency takes in the amelioration of the lot of the cultivators, the tillers of the soil, was seen all round and the people are awaiting the birth of a new era in agriculture, with far-reaching improvements on modern scientific lines. In welcoming Your Excellency we, therefore, welcome one who is a

sincere friend and a real well-wisher of both high and low and who is actuated with the earnest desire, with the noble spirit, of giving his best to the Empire. I would be failing in my duty if I did not extend my warm welcome to the Gracious Lady, Lady Linlithgow, who shares with Your Excellency the burdens of the high office. We hope that she will prove a real asset to the womanhood of India in any thing that conduces to their wellbeing and uplift. With these words, Your Excellency, I heartily second the Resolution, and while praying for an augury of happiness and prosperity to Your Excellency, Lady Linlithgow, and the family, I wish that all your noble efforts in the cause of India and the Indian States may be crowned with full success.

His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner: Your Excellency; Your Highnesses; I deem it an honour and a source of sincere pleasure to associate myself with this Resolution, welcoming a statesman of such eminence and reputation whom India has the privilege of claiming today as its Viceroy.

We are encouraged all the more from Your Excellency's inaugural address of this morning to hope that the Princes of India will not look in vain to Your Excellency, as the Vicegerent of our august Emperor, for sympathy and support in adequately supporting and safe-guarding the honour and dignity and the rights and interests of the Indian States in connection with the coming Constitutional Reforms in order that the Rulers of States, big and small, may be enabled to take their due place in the future polity of India as willing, happy and contented partners. And I feel, Sir, that I shall no less be voicing the sentiments of my Brother Princess when I venture to express the further hope that before long, when Your Excellency finds a little respite from the immediate problems now engaging your attention, and with your well-known desire of coming in close personal contact with the Princes of India, you will be able to find time to go closely and personally into some other important questions which have been exercising the minds of the Princes and States of India for a considerable time past, and that it may be in Your Excellency's Viceroyalty that these questions will be settled in a manner which will prove satisfactory to the States, a consummation which, I venture to say, will at the same time be in the best Imperial interests.

Sir, I once again take this opportunity of tendering to Your Excellency my warmest good wishes for the success of your Viceroyalty and for your health and happiness and that of the gracious lady, your noble helpmate, Her Excellency the Marchioness of Linlithgow, and of your family.

His Excellency the Viceroy: Your Highnesses have heard this Resolution moved, seconded and supported. Is it your pleasure that this Resolution should be passed?

(The Resolution was carried unanimously.)

His Excellency the Viceroy: I shall delay the proceedings for a minute to give myself an opportunity of thanking Your Highnesses most warmly for the manner in which you have received the resolution recommended and supported in terms so generous, so warm and so sincerely appreciated by myself. Your welcome, your good wishes, your support are precious things to me and, may I add, that my heart has been sincerely touched by the words which you have used about my wife. I thank Your Highnesses most warmly for your kindness.

Agendum No. 4.

Resolution of condolence by His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur on the demise of Their late Highnesses the Mir of Khairpur, the Raja of Chamba, the Raja of Rajgarh and the Nawab of Radhanpur.

His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur: Your Excellency; Your Highnesses: It is a sad part of my duty this morning to move this resolution to express our condolence and deep sense of loss inflicted on our Order by the hand of death.

His late Highness the Mir Saheb of Khairpur was a Ruler who had endeared himself to all with whom he came into contact by his simplicity, open-heartedness friendship and lavish hospitality which was so well-known. He usually attended the sessions of the Chamber of Princes and took interest in its activities.

In His Highness the late Raja Saheb of Chamba, we have sustained the loss of another distinguished member of this House. His late Highness was well beloved by many of his brother Princes and passed away at a comparatively young age of only 46 years.

His Highness the late Raja Saheb of Rajgarh was yet another member of our Order whose sad demise we have to mourn. He was hardly 45 years old at the time of his death.

His late Highness of Radhanpur was a very popular figure in our Order. He used to take active part in the Councils of the Chamber of Princes. In his death also we have lost a valuable friend.

I am sure, Your Highnesses will join me in the resolution which I now beg to move:—

> "The Chamber of Princes records its heartfelt sorrow at the demise of Their late Highnesses the Mir Sahib of Khairpur, Raja Sahib of Chamba, Raja Sahib of Rajgarh and the Nawab Sahib of Radhanpur, together with its sense of loss thereby sustained by the entire Order of the Princes and offers its sincere sympathies and condolences to the bereaved families."

The Raja of Maihar: I rise with a heavy heart to second the resolution of condolence moved by His Highness the Chancellor, on the sad demise of Their late Highnesses the Mir Sahib of Khairpur, the Raja Sahib of Chamba, the Raja Sahib of Rajgarh and the Nawab Sahib of Radhanpur. The qualities of their head and heart endeared them all both to their subjects and to our Order alike. Their presence amongst us was a great source of strength to this illustrious House and I am sure I am voicing the feeling of the whole House when I say that their loss is a loss to the Order of Princes as a whole. I do not wish to deal with this painful subject any longer and take up the very precious time of the House and beg leave to resume my seat after once more supporting the resolution of His Highness the Chancellor.

His Excellency the Viceroy: Your Highnesses have heard this Resolution moved, seconded and supported. Is it your pleasure that this Resolution should be passed?

(The Resolution was carried unanimously, all standing.)

Agendum No. 5.

Resolution of welcome by His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur to Their Highnesses the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior, the Maharaja of Cooch-Behar, the Nawab of Radhanpur, the Mir of Khairpur, the Raja of Rajgarh and the Raja of Chamba.

His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur: Your Excellency; Your Highnesses: it is with great pleasure that I rise to propose the resolution of welcome to Their Highnesses the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior, Maharaja Sahib of Cooch Behar and the Nawab Sahib of Radhanpur, on their assumption of powers and to Their Highnesses the Mir Sahib of Khairpur, Raja Sahib of Rajgarh and Raja Sahib of Chamba on their accession.

His Highness the Maharaja Sahib of Gwalior is a young Prince full of promise, from the illustrious House, which can boast of traditions of great achievements in strategy and statesmanship. His illustrious father was one of the well known figures among the Rulers of his time and his services to the Order of Princes through this Chamber and otherwise are too well known to need repetition here. He had also the distinction of being a clear headed statesman and administrator of exceptional abilities who introduced many reforms in the administration of his State and brought innumerable amenities to his people. He was in short the maker of modern Gwalior.

His Highness has during the past few months since his assumption of powers, has already given ample proof that he is a worthy son of a worthy father; and I hope and pray that he will distinguish himself in various fields of activities inside and outside his State. I also hope that like his illustrious father, he will take his due share in the affairs of the Chamber and will prove a tower of strength to this organisation and to the noble Order which it represents.

His Highness the Maharaja of Cooch-Behar who has assumed his powers is no stranger to me personally and my welcome to him is sincere since in years gone by, His Highness' father and I were play-mates. His Highness comes to us from our Eastern-most boundary in the country and inspite of the distance, he actually sits here amongst us to help us in our deliberations. I hope His Highness will continue to be an active member of this Order and be a strength to us all in every way.

His Highness of Radhanpur comes from the other side of India and I hope that he will prove an ornament of our Order in every way inside and outside his State and will also take that active interest in the Chamber which we all desire that the Rulers should do. By helping this Institution correctly, I believe we shall be helping the interests of the country.

I now beg to move:—

"That the Chamber of Princes offers its heartiest congratulations to Their Highnesses the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior and the Maharaja of Cooch-Behar on their investiture with ruling powers and to Their Highnesses the Mir Saheb of Khairpur, the Nawab Saheb of Radhanpur, Raja Saheb of Rajgarh and the Raja Saheb of Chamba on their succession and wishes them a long and prosperous rule."

His Highness the Maharawal of Dungarpur: Your Excellency, Your Highnesses—While endorsing every word that has fallen from the lips of His Highness the Chancellor, I wholeheartedly beg to second the Resolution.

His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner: Your Excellency and Your Highnesses: I beg to associate myself with this Resolution. It is a great pleasure to us to see here His Highness of Cooch Behar and I hope that next year we shall see here in our midst His Highness Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior, whose father was so closely associated with the Chamber in the good old days and who rendered such yeomen service inside and outside the Chamber to his brother Princes and the Indian States.

His Excellency the Viceroy: Is it Your Highnesses' pleasure that this Resolution be passed?

(The Resolution was carried unanimously.)

Agendum No. 6.

To receive a statement from His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur reviewing the work performed by the Chamber during the last two years.

His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur: Your Excellency, Your Highnesses; I now rise to submit to this House my report on the work of the Chamber of Princes during the last two years.

No session of the Chamber was held during the year 1936 on account of there being no suitable questions for inclusion in the agenda of the Chamber. For similar reasons no formal meeting of the Standing Committee was held during the years 1935 and 1936. Several questions are, however, taken up by the Standing Committee in the year 1936 as a result of which a formal meeting of the Standing Committee was held in the beginning of this year.

In the period under review a large number of Informal Conferences and Committees have met which have meant considerable extra work for the members of the Standing Committee. As, however, these activities fall outside the proper scope of the Chamber, no detailed reference is made to them in this review.

The first informal meeting of the Standing Committee was held on the 26th February 1936. Among other things the following five points out of the "23" points raised by the codification committee were discussed at that meeting in the light of the replies received from the Political Department:—

I. Entertainment by Government Officers of complaints from the subjects, muafidars, Jagirdars, etc. of States.

II. Jurisdiction over European subjects and Officers of the Crown in State territories.

These two questions are still under negotiation with the Government of India.

III. Claim of States in the matter of Posts and Telegraphs' revenue.

This question was eventually dropped in view of the fact that the Posts and Telegraphs are to be Federal subjects.

IV. Restrictions on the manufacture and export of salt by Durbars.

A fresh Circular was issued to all the States with a view to finding out if there were any grievances under which the States were labouring. A few States have raised certain points in this connection and on receipt of fuller information from them the matter will be re-considered. The concensus of opinions so far collected goes to show that there are no restrictions contrary to treaties or agreements in States.

V. That Darbars should be permitted to exercise civil and criminal jurisdiction over State subjects and other suzerain rights in cantonment areas.

On this question also a circular letter was sent round to all the States with a view to ascertaining the real position. The replies received from 50 odd States went to show that the States had no grievances in the matter. The question was eventually dropped.

The question of financial liability of the Indian States for the deportation of French Indo-China subjects and the allied question of Indian States being called upon to meet expenses incidental to the repatriation from overseas of their destitute subjects, have been decided in accordance with our wishes, the first having been dropped and in the second the Government of India having undertaken to so arrange matters that grant of passports to subjects of Indian States without first consulting the State concerned would be ruled out.

The following other matters were dealt with by the Standing Committee:—

(a) For the session of the Chamber of Princes held in February 1930 the late Nawab Saheb of Sachin had proposed the following resolution:—

"That all agreements entered into with the Provincial Governments by the salute States should be subject to sanction of the Government of India after hearing the arguments of any of the Rulers concerned."

At that time the proposed resolution was deleted from the agenda at the request of the Political Department. The Political Secretary has now written back to say that though agreements of the nature referred to already require sanction of the Government of India, the local Governments and the Political Officers have further been warned that agreements with the Indian States even of a purely commercial nature should not be executed without previous reference to the Government of India, unless they are of a stereotyped nature.

The next informal meeting of the Standing Committee was held on the 16th of April and another on the 29th of October and the 1st of November 1936. Various questions which had been pending were discussed at these meetings. Some of these deserve to be mentioned here.

Directly it was known that the Government of India intended to take up legislation contemplated by Section 318 of the Government of India Act, 1935, for establishing a Federal Railway Authority, the matter was taken up with the Political Secretary in order to secure representation of States on that body, in exercise of the discretion of the Governor General under Section 182 of the Government of India Act, 1935. The Political Secretary wrote back to say that the claim of the Indian States for representation on the Federal Railway Authority had been duly noted but that the Government of India were afraid it was not possible to establish

in advance a convention to the effect that the States should be represented on it. The matter was considered by the Standing Committee of Ministers in August last in Bombay and in accordance with their recommendations which had been accepted by the Standing Committee the matter was further pursued with the Political Department who have now replied that the desire of the States for their representation on the Railway Authority, Tariff Board and the Railway Tribunal would be brought to the notice of the Governor General when exercising his discretion in due course under the appropriate Section of the Government of India Act, 1935.

The question of exemption of the personal luggage of Ruling Princes and Chiefs from octroi duty in British India was brought to the notice of the Standing Committee in January 1934 when the Chancellor was authorised to take it up with the Political Secretary to the Government of India. The reply received from the Political Department in July 1934 enumerated various difficulties in complying with the wishes of the Standing Committee. In accordance with the decision of the Standing Committee arrived at on 15th January 1935, the matter was further pressed and it was suggested that the Government of India might ask the Provincial Governments to issue rules under their enactments enjoining on the Municipal Officers not to detain and examine the personal luggage of a Ruling Prince on receipt of information about his visit, and allow it to pass to his place of residence on a declaration made by the Secretary or a Staff of the Prince concerned. The Political Secretary, I am glad to say, has now written back to say that most of the Provincial Governments had already taken or would in the near future take necessary action to produce so far as possible the position envisaged in my letter. I have already sent round a Circular to Your Highnesses informing you of the satisfactory arrangements arrived at in this connection.

Another informal meeting of the Standing Committee was held on the 19th January 1937. At that meeting besides other matters, the agenda of the forthcoming Session of the Chamber of Princes was considered as well as matters which were to be informally discussed with the Political Secretary at the formal meeting of the Standing Committee held on the 20th January, 1937.

The following important matters were discussed with the Political Secretary at the meeting held on the 20th January 1937:—

As Your Highnesses will remember the Government of India have had under contemplation the promulgation of revised rules in regard to Mail Robberies in Indian States, under which the Paramount Power reserved the right to claim and obtain compensation in any case where a robbery was found to be attributable to the failure of the Indian State concerned to make police arrangements to secure the reasonable safety of life and property in any area or to afford suitable protection to roads over which mails were carried. This matter had been under negotiation with the Government of India for several years past. At the meeting held on the 20th January, the Political Secretary intimated that the Government of India had now come to the conclusion that these rules were no longer necessary and could be abrogated forthwith. In the Resolution that is proposed to be issued by the Government of India on the subject a proviso as regards the inherent responsibility of State Administrations for the protection of mails in transit in their territory is sought to be added, but the Political Secretary explained to the Standing Committee that this sentence referred to the States' responsibility for the maintenance of law

and order. Thus a long standing matter has been disposed of satisfactorily and in the interests of the States.

Another question brought up for discussion by the Political Secretary related to the amendment of Resolution No. F.-164-VI of 1929, dated the 7th September 1929, regarding employment in Indian States of European British subjects, pensioners and aliens, etc. Under the provisions of the existing Resolution consent of the Government of India is required for employment in Indian States of retired members of the Indian Civil Service or retired officers, whether European British subjects or Indians, who have served in the Political Department of the Government of India. The wordings employed in the text of the Resolution required amplification on this point, so that the two classes of officers mentioned in this case, namely, (1) retired members of the Indian Civil Service, and (2) Officers who have served in the Political Department should be placed in distinct categories. Similarly it is proposed to define the term "temporary engagement" applicable to professional people to whose employment consent of the Government of India is not required. The expression is now proposed to be defined as meaning a period not exceeding three months, whether continuous or otherwise. The Standing Committee agreed that both the amendments should be accepted leaving it to time to show how the Rule in regard to the second amendment worked out in practice.

The following matters were discussed informally with the Political Secretary at the meeting of the Standing Committee held on the 20th January 1937:—

1. General procedure in regard to consulting Indian States in the matter of their accession to International conventions.
2. International convention regarding ratification of protocol on arbitration clauses 1923 and the execution of foreign arbitral awards 1927.
3. International convention on the treatment of Foreigners.

The trend of discussions seems to show that the decisions to be arrived at in regard to all the three subjects noted above would not affect the Indian States.

Extradition.

In accordance with the decision of the Standing Committee the Government of India were addressed in the matter of the revision of the Extradition Rules and procedure, so that the claims of the Indian States as formulated in the report of the Ministers Committee of 1921 should be met by administrative arrangement pending constitutional changes in the relations between the Indian States and British India. The Political Secretary further elucidated the points raised by us and the matter will have to be re-examined in the light of the explanations offered by him.

Retrocession of jurisdiction over Railway Lands.

From the discussions held with the Political Secretary at the meeting of the 20th January 1937, it can be presumed that the grievances of the states in regard to (1) extradition with special reference to sedition, (2) Arms Act, and (3) retrocession of sovereignty without jurisdiction over Railway lands ceded in full sovereignty for railway purposes, will be soon

removed. The two remaining questions, namely (1) retrocession of jurisdiction over Railway lands over and above what is required for the smooth working of railways and (2) financial and fiscal aspects, are still under the consideration of the Government of India.

REVISION OF THE SCHEME FOR THE REORGANISATION OF THE INDIAN STATES FORCES.

This subject was also informally discussed with the Political Secretary. The Standing Committee reserved all comments till they had had further consultation among themselves. A Committee of Military experts of Indian States has to be appointed by the Standing Committee and as soon as their report is received, the matter will be pursued further.

ATTACHMENT OF SPECIAL SERVICE OFFICERS TO I. S. F. UNITS ON MOBILIZATION.

This was another subject discussed informally with the Political Secretary recently and it was agreed that a detailed communication in the matter containing the points urged by the Standing Committee at the meeting should be sent to the Political Secretary.

ATTACHMENT OF BRITISH LIAISON OFFICERS TO I. S. F. UNITS IN THE EVENT OF CIVIL DISTURBANCES IN INDIAN STATES.

The recommendations of the Military Experts Committee of Indian States of 1932 were pressed for by the Standing Committee at the meeting on the 20th January. The Political Department undertook to amend the memorandum accordingly and to address the Chancellor in due course.

EDUCATIONAL TEST FOR THE I. S. F. CADETS FOR ADMISSION INTO THE INDIAN MILITARY ACADEMY.

After a discussion of the subject at the meeting of the 20th January, it was felt that special test for the Indian States' cadets would be invidious and it was decided to drop this question.

GRANT TO THE INDIAN STATES' FORCES OF THE SAME RAILWAY CONCESSIONS AS ARE GRANTED TO THE ARMY IN INDIA.

At the meeting of the 20th January, the Political Secretary explained that this matter was still under negotiations with the Railway Department.

REVISION OF THE BASIS OF APPORTIONMENT OF SHARES OF INDIAN STATES IN THE CENTRAL ROAD FUND.

In view of the fact that in the case of certain Central India States apportionment of the proceeds had recently been made on the basis of road mileage and not on the quantity of petrol consumed, the matter was taken up with the Political Department. At the meeting held on the 20th January, the Political Secretary explained that a new scheme had been introduced recently and would be communicated to the Rulers, whereby consumption on petrol would be the only basis of distribution, the adjoining States being in certain cases formed into groups for effecting the purpose in view. The matter may thus be taken to have been satisfactorily settled.

NEW ADMISSION TO THE CHAMBER.

This subject was also informally discussed with the Political Secretary who explained that there had been great divergence of opinion regarding the advisability of admitting further members to the Chamber. The Government of India were awaiting a unanimous opinion from the Princes. There was a general feeling that the Standing Committee should do their best to persuade their Brother Princes to accept an agreed solution.

Your Excellency; Your Highnesses: That concludes my statement of the work done in the last two years. Before I finally close, I feel I cannot do so without referring in the first place, to the friendliest co-operation that I and Your Highnesses on the Standing Committee received from our Political Secretary, but for whose personal interest and help, we would not have been able to give you the report which we have given.

One word more and that is about the Standing Committee, whose help and co-operation has been entirely responsible for the amount of work we have been able to do. If I were to say that the members worked hard and carefully, I believe, Your Highnesses, this is a compliment which can be paid to many workers. Personally I feel the compliment I can pay is, that they worked as a team and treated all business as business carried on for one family, and I shall always remain grateful to the members who have so generously helped me through difficult times.

His Highness the Maharao of Cutch: Your Excellency; Your Highnesses: Having listened to the interesting report which His Highness the Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes has presented to this House, I am prompted to express a few words in appreciation of the work which the Chancellor and his Standing Committee have done with the co-operation of the Political Secretary during the last two years which has been a time of strain and stress. I believe His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala for some months of these two years has been in charge of the responsible office of Chancellor, an office which His Highness of Patiala has occupied with credit for no less than 10 or 11 years. As it is already getting late I do not wish to detain Your Highnesses, and I therefore propose that the House may express its high sense of appreciation of the House for the work done by His Highness the Chancellor the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur and his Standing Committee by passing a vote of thanks.

His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala: Your Excellency; Your Highnesses: I have the honour to second the Resolution.

His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur: I thank Your Highnesses very much.

His Excellency the Viceroy: I think that this concludes our business this morning. (I want to remind Your Highnesses that a photograph will be taken in a few minutes.)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND DAY.

The 25th February 1937.

The Chamber assembled at the Princes' Chamber, Council House, at 11 A.M. on Thursday, the 25th February, 1937. His Excellency the Viceroy presided.

The following Ruling Princes and Chiefs were present:—

Assam.

His Highness the Maharaja of Manipur.

Central India States.

His Highness the Nawab of Baoni.
His Highness the Maharaja of Charkhari.
His Highness the Maharaja of Dewas (Junior).
The Raja of Maihar.
His Highness the Maharaja of Rewa.
His Highness the Raja of Sailana.
His Highness the Raja of Sitamau.

Deccan States.

The Raja of Jamkhandi.
His Highness the Nawab of Janjira.
The Raja of Phaltan.

Eastern States.

His Highness the Maharaja of Cooch Behar.
The Raja of Korea.
The Raja of Sakti.
The Raja of Seraikela.

Gujarat States.

The Raja of Chhota Udepur.
The Nawab of Sachin.

Gwalior Agency.

His Highness the Maharaja of Benares.
His Highness the Nawab of Rampur.

Madras States.

The Nawab of Banganapalle.

Punjab States.

His Highness the Nawab of Bahawalpur.
His Highness the Raja of Bilaspur.
His Highness the Raja of Faridkot.
His Highness the Maharaja of Jind.
The Nawab of Loharu.
His Highness the Nawab of Malerkotla.
His Highness the Raja of Mandi.
The Nawab of Pataudi.
His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala.
His Highness the Maharaja of Sirmur.
His Highness the Raja of Suket.
His Highness the Maharaja of Tehri (Garhwal).

Rajputana States.

His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner.
The Maharana of Danta.
His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur.
His Highness the Maharawal of Dungarpur.
His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Jhalawar.
His Highness the Maharao of Kotah.
His Highness the Maharawat of Partabgarh.

Western India States.

His Highness the Maharaja of Bhavnagar.
His Highness the Maharao of Cutch.
His Highness the Maharaja of Dhrangadhra.
His Highness the Maharaja of Idar.
The Chief of Jasdan.
His Highness the Maharaja of Nawanagar.
His Highness the Maharana Raj Saheb of Wankaner.

Agendum No. 7.

To receive from His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur the reports of Sir S. M. Bapna and Sir V. T. Krishnamachari regarding their work as representatives of India at the meetings of the League of Nations held in 1935 and 1936 respectively.

His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur: Your Excellency; Your Highnesses: I rise to present to Your Highnesses the report of Sir V. T. Krishnamachari, who represented the Indian States on the Indian Delegation of the League of Nations in 1936. The report has been laid* on the table and I move that it may be taken as read.

The task of representing the States at the League Assembly in 1935 fell to Sir S. M. Bapna—the wise and veteran Dewan of Indore. I am sorry that owing to sudden and protracted illness he could not write his report† to be submitted to the Chamber.

Our thanks are due to Sir V. T. Krishnamachari for the work done by him on our behalf and in the interest of India. It was a 2nd time that Sir V. T. Krishnamachari was selected to represent the States in that august body—the Assembly of the League of Nations. His wide experience and mature wisdom fitted him for that task. As a Dewan of the progressive State of Baroda, and by his work as a member of the Indian States' Delegation at the various Conferences and Committees which discussed the Constitution of India during the past several years, he had made his mark and by his work at the League Assembly he has fully justified the trust which was reposed in him.

I am sure, Your Highnesses, will join with me in expressing our thanks to Sir V. T. Krishnamachari.

* Appendix I—see next page.

† This was received later and is published as Appendix II to these Proceedings.

APPENDIX.

To

HIS HIGHNESS THE CHANCELLOR,

CHAMBER OF PRINCES.

YOUR HIGHNESS,

I beg to submit the report of the seventeenth (ordinary) session of the Assembly of the League of Nations held at Geneva from the 21st September to the 10th October 1936 at which, I had the honour to represent the Indian States as a member of the Indian delegation.

DELEGATIONS.

2. Fifty-two out of the fifty-eight States Members of the League were represented at the Session, no fewer than twenty-seven by their Prime Ministers or Foreign Ministers. The members which did not submit documents accrediting Delegates to the Assembly were Guatemala, Honduras, Italy, Nicaragua, Paraguay, and Salvador.

THE INDIAN DELEGATION.

3. The Indian Delegation was constituted as follows:—

DELEGATES.

His Highness the Right Honourable the Aga Khan, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.C.V.O., P.C., Leader of the Delegation.

Sir Denys Bray, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., C.B.E. (Member of the Council of India).

Sir V. T. Krishnamachari, K.C.I.E. (Dewan of Baroda).

SUBSTITUTE DELEGATE.

Mr. Charu Chandra Biswas, C.I.E.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE.

4. Usually the Members of the Credentials Committee are appointed by the Assembly without a vote, but this time at the special request of the Abyssinian delegation, they were elected by a secret ballot.

5. The Committee submitted two reports: the first dealt with the credentials of 51 delegations adding that the credentials of the Abyssinian delegation called for closer examination. The Committee's second report, which was submitted at the fourth plenary meeting of the Assembly, stated that the Committee had under consideration the question whether the Head of the State who had issued their credentials to the Abyssinian delegation was exercising his legal title effectively enough to render those credentials perfectly in order. The Committee had finally decided to propose that the Assembly should consider the credentials of the Abyssinian delegation, despite the doubt as to their regularity, as sufficient to permit that delegation to sit at the present session.

On the request of the Hungarian delegation, supported by the delegations of Austria and Albania, a vote by nominal roll-call was taken to see whether the Assembly approved the Committee's report by the necessary majority. Thirty-nine States (including India) voted in favour of the acceptance of the report, four States for its rejection and there were six abstentions. The report was therefore adopted.

President.

6. His Excellency M. Saavedra Lamas, first delegate of Argentine and Minister for Foreign Affairs, was elected President of the Assembly in a secret ballot by 44 votes out of 49 votes cast.

General Debate.

7. The business of the Assembly commenced with a general debate which lasted for eight days and in which 33 speakers representing 30 countries participated. The most important topics discussed were the improvement of the application of the principles of the League Covenant, the conclusion of the non-intervention agreement and the question of access to raw materials.

8. Regarding the first topic, in accordance with a resolution adopted by the Assembly in July 1936, the members of the League had been invited to submit proposals for improving the application of the principles of the League Covenant. A considerable number of Governments had already sent in their observations, but some wished to supplement their written replies by verbal explanations. While others—among them the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland —preferred to make the first statement of their views before the Assembly in plenary session. Therefore, speaking on behalf of the United Kingdom, Mr. Eden opened the discussion. He put forward the view that the failure of collective action in the Italo-Abyssinian war had been due to the fact that League membership was not universal, and to the failure of the League to play a more energetic part in the earlier stages of the crisis. The British Government, he said, therefore considered that machinery should be devised to facilitate the effective intervention of the League earlier than could be expected in existing circumstances. In particular, the rule that measures taken under Article 11 of the Covenant must be adopted unanimously should be modified in order to allow the Council to take action, in the event of war or threat of war, without the consent of the parties to the dispute. As regards the League's lack of universality, Mr. Eden observed that the two chief reasons for the abstentions and defections from the League were, first, that the Covenant invited signatories to assume obligations which not all Governments were ready to accept; and secondly that the League was alleged to stand for the maintenance of an order of things with which some Governments were not content. He added that with a view to meeting the first of these objections, the British Government recommended the reinforcement of general security by means of regional pacts, provided that these were consistent with the Covenant: and to meet the second objection they would favour the separation of the Covenant from the peace treaties, and would see no objection to a discussion of existing treaties under Article 19 of the Covenant.

9. The speakers who followed showed that their preoccupations were similar to those of the Government of the United Kingdom; though the peculiar circumstances and policies of the various Governments led their representatives to lay particular stress upon those aspects of the problem which especially concerned them. The League's lack of universality was unanimously deplored; but while some speakers drew the conclusion that the League should concentrate upon investigating political and economic grievances in a spirit of conciliation rather than upon strengthening the coercive provisions of the Covenant, others considered that the absence of certain of the Great Powers from the League only made it more necessary for those who remained to give effective power to the idea of collective security by making possible the immediate and resolute application of the measures provided by Articles 16.

10. On the subject of the non-intervention agreement, although the question of the civil war in Spain had not been officially brought before the League, Senor Alvarez del vayo, the Spanish Foreign Minister, took the opportunity to condemn the policy of non-intervention adopted by the Powers, and to allege that, both before and after the conclusion of the Non-Intervention Agreement, the insurgents had received great material assistance from States which sympathised with them. The policy of non-intervention was defended by the French Foreign Minister, Delbos, who asserted that his Government had not recommended it in a spirit of indifference, but because the danger of rival interventions in the struggle was recognised by all. The Portuguese delegate also declared his Government's adherence to the policy, arguing that non-intervention was so essential that it even overrode the principle of the legitimacy of a Government.

11. Regarding raw materials, in the course of his speech Mr. Eden repeated the declaration made by Sir Samuel Hoare at the Assembly of 1935, to the effect that the British Government would be in favour of an impartial expert inquiry into the question of access to certain raw materials; several other delegates also supported this project.

12. In addition to the above, some speakers referred to the question of reduction of armaments. The delegates of France, Norway, Denmark, Sweden and China pleaded for a resumption of the League's work for the reduction and limitation of armaments. The delegates of a number of South American States referred to the conclusion of peace between Bolivia and Paraguay, which, had recently been consummated with the active co-operation of the organs of the League, at the Buenos Aires Conference.

13. Lastly, a number of delegates paid tributes to the monetary agreement between the United Kingdom, the United States of America and France which was concluded on September 26th, the second day of the general debate.

14. In the course of this general debate, on the fourth day, His Highness the Aga Khan made the following important speech:—

"It is now four years since I first attended the Assembly of the League of Nations. In four short years I have seen the League elated-over-elated by success; I have seen it downcast, cast down almost into despair by failure. Within one short year I have seen it pass through the whole gamut of emotion.

"The ideals that inspire the League were conceived at a time of moral elevation, when men and nations thought that their passions had been purged by war, and were resolved that the world shall never again pass through that awful experience. Those ideals appealed to the whole of India, irrespective of class or creed; to India, that land of historic and persistent idealism which I have the honour to represent. To condemn the League after these sixteen years of its short life, to abandon its ideals now that we have learnt that men and nations are imperfect still, would be as foolish as to condemn all philosophies, all religions, and all the idealism of the past, because of the state of the world today.

"It is not in moments of depression that wisdom comes into its own, or that a wise man repudiates his ideas—those great principles which are dearer than life itself—or seeks to recast the whole scheme of his life. Nor can this be the time for us to recase the whole scheme of the League, or to abandon its ideas just because we ourselves have fallen short of them. A wise man learns from the past; he does not let the past master him. Let us not shrink from recognising the realities in us and round us; let us adjust ourselves to the needs of the moment; but let us still set our ideals before us and grope our way through fair weather and foul towards them.

"I have often thought that the causes of the League's failures and rebuffs are in the main two-fold; and both militate against that universality which inspired the conception of the League and on which its success ultimately depends. We have stressed far too much those elements in the Covenant which make for or seemed to make for the crystallisation of the world as it stood sixteen years ago. But change is the very essence of life. If the League is to be a living organism, it too, must change, or, like all living organisms, perish. But the seeds of life are present in the Covenant itself. Let them at long last fructify.

"And we have at times failed because we have all too often let the better be the enemy of the good. It is an amiable weakness that besets us the more readily, the more idealistic our outlook. But the realisation of ideals in this imperfect world can only come by way of a clear appreciation of what is practical. If we aim at too high a standard we shall not make it easier for those who have left us to return, or for those who have stood out from the beginning to come in.

"So, I, for one, cannot believe that wisdom lies in attempting any heroic changes of our constitution in this hour of depression. Our constitution after all is elastic, and can be adjusted to our changing needs. Our present task is rather to tackle the many concrete problems that cry out for solution. There are problems of regional pacts, of peace, and of disarmament, and to my mind no problem is more immediately pressing, or more hopeful of possible immediate success, than that of breaking through the chains of economic nationalism which are impending the natural course of trade between nations and are crippling their economic life. For years we addressed ourselves directly to the problem of disarmament and failed. If the world is to be saved from disaster it must be tackled anew. If the time is not ripe for us to tackle military disarmament directly it is at least ripe for us to tackle it indirectly. Let us now set ourselves in earnest to those monetary and economic questions which form the background to much of the present world discontent. Let us promote the suggested enquiry into the accessibility of raw materials and see

whether certain misgivings on this subject can be removed. And let us see whether we cannot break down the barriers of economic nationalism before they become veritable barrages of war.

"In this connection I most heartily welcome the accord between those three great powers, England, France, and America that has just been concluded, and sincerely hope that it is the first step towards world economic and monetary settlement."

GENERAL COMMISSION.

15. In July 1936, when the Assembly met in connection with the dispute between Italy and Abyssinia, a resolution was adopted to the effect that the Assembly, while remaining firmly attached to the principles of the Covenant, was convinced of the necessity for strengthening the authority of the League and the effectiveness of the guarantees of security which it offers to its members. As a preliminary measure, Governments were invited as already stated to submit proposals for improving the application of the principles of the Covenant.

16. When the Assembly met in September, replies had been received from some seventeen Governments: the views of a number of other Governments were put forward during the general debate. The General Committee, on being asked to advise upon the procedure for dealing with the question of the application of the principles of the Covenant and certain cognate matters, recommended the establishment of a General Commission. This proposal was adopted by the Assembly, and the General Commission was duly constituted and held two meetings on the 9th October. All the delegations were entitled to appoint representatives, and India was represented by His Highness the Aga Khan and Sir Denys Bray. Mr. S. M. Bruce (Australia) was elected Chairman.

17. The Commission considered that it was called upon to make recommendations concerning, first, the collection and classification of the relevant documents and, secondly, the setting up of a body to study these documents. As regards the former matter, it was decided that the Secretary General should collect and classify the proposals of Governments, whether put forward in writing or in the speeches of their delegates in the Assembly.

The discussion of the Constitution of the body to consider and make recommendations on these documents revealed differences of opinion similar to those which had appeared during the general debate. Those delegates who laid the principal emphasis upon the importance of League membership becoming universal favoured the appointment of a general committee of all League members, which should invite the assistance of non-member States. On the other hand, those delegates whose primary concern was to strengthen the Covenant advocated a restricted committee and, while not denying the importance of universality, thought that the Committee's task should be undertaken without the co-operation of Powers outside the League who had no responsibility towards it. It was eventually decided that a restricted committee should be appointed, consisting of the fifteen States represented on the Council and thirteen other member States, with power to invite other members of the League to take part in their discussions. The Commission's report made particular mention of the proposal of the Chilean delegation that, in the interests of

universality, the views of non-member States should be ascertained, and this proposal was referred to the committee itself. The committee was charged with preparing a report to be submitted to the members of the League and to serve as a basis for the League's decisions in this matter; it was also authorised to propose a special session of the Assembly should it consider it advisable to do so.

18. The Special Committee thus constituted held an informal meeting on the 10th October, and decided to meet in regular session in December.

Work of the Committees.

19. India was fully represented on the six main committees among which the work of the League is distributed. These committees together with the names of Indian delegates elected to work on each of them are given below:—

Committee No. 1.—(Legal and Constitutional)
Sir Denys Bray.

Committee No. 2.—(Technical organisations)
Sir V. T. Krishnamachari and
Mr. Biswas.

Committee No. 3.—(Disarmament)
His Highness the Aga Khan and
Sir Denys Bray.

Committee No. 4.—(Organisation of the Secretariat and the League's finances).
Mr. C. C. Biswas.

Committee No. 5.—(Social and Humanitarian)
Sir V. T. Krishnamachari.

Committee No. 6.—(Political)
Sir Denys Bray and
Sir V. T. Krishnamachari.

The First Committee.

20. While giving an account of the work of this Committee special mention must be made of the proposals for an international Convention for suppression and punishment of terrorist acts. As part of the settlement of the dispute between Yugoslavia and Hungary following the assasination of King Alexander of Yugoslavia and the French Foreign Minister, the Council set up in December 1934 a Committee of experts to draft a convention with the object of making possible the international suppression and punishment of terrorist acts. The Committee submitted a draft convention for the above purpose and for the creation of an International Criminal Court and suggested that at its next session the Assembly should decide whether a diplomatic conference should be held during 1937 for the consideration of the draft Convention.

21. When the question was discussed in the Committee, a number of delegates asserted that their Governments believed that International Co-operation for the prevention and punishment of terrorism was an urgent

necessity and that they were prepared to accept the draft convention on the subject as a basis of discussion. The delegate of Belgium however criticised the draft on two grounds; first, that its scope had been unduly widened by the inclusion of categories of crimes which could not properly be described as terrorist; and secondly, that it could interfere with the traditional right of Governments to afford asylum to political refugees. These views obtained considerable support, though the United Kingdom delegate stated that his Government interpreted the draft convention as leaving intact the right of each contracting State to refuse extradition for political offences.

22. The Finnish and some other delegates considered that the convention should expressly bind the contracting parties themselves to refrain from all acts likely to encourage terrorist activities directed against the public order and security of another State. Sir Denys Bray pointed out that the Indian delegation felt that the draft convention should not be enlarged, but contracted, that it was not too narrow, but too wide, in its scope. He said that the Indian Government was in entire accord with the principles of International Co-operation for the suppression of terrorism; but that there was some perplexity as to the real intention of certain of the fundamental articles. Sir Denys, therefore, urged that he would like to see the draft convention referred back to the Expert Committee and then forwarded by that Committee to the next Assembly, in the hope that they would then have a draft convention, in a simplified and clearer form, dealing with terrorism in the ordinary sense of the word, terrorism as universally understood. After a good deal of discussion a resolution was adopted indicating that the scope of the proposed convention should be limited to acts of a terrorist character in the strict sense, and that it should cover only those terrorist attacks on life and property which possess an international character.

23. The rest of the discussions of the First Committee were mainly confined to matters of procedure such as

(*i*) System of elections to the Council.

(*ii*) rules of procedure of the Assembly, and

(*iii*) method of election of judges for the Permanent Court of International Justice.

The Second Committee.

Health Organisation.

24. The Health Organisation of the League continued its manifold activities as usual. The Eastern Bureau at Singapore which is not only a centre of information but an observation post fulfilling a preventive function of the greatest importance showed a good record in epidemiological work. The malariology courses for the Far East are also proving very useful.

25. It has been decided to hold a Conference on Rural Hygiene in August 1937 at Java. The Preparatory Commission appointed by the League in this connection have proposed an agenda for the Conference covering not only medical assistance and public health in rural districts, but other kindered questions such as the collaboration of the public, sanitation, nutrition and finance.

26. In this Committee the Swedish delegate proposed that following the precedent of the enquiry concerning nutrition which is being undertaken by the League, the housing problem should be studied in its relation to economic, financial, administrative and social problems. The suggestion was approved by the Committee, which passed a resolution asking that suitable collaboration should be established between the Economic, Financial and Health Committees and the International Labour office, who should submit to the next ordinary assembly a general report on the housing question.

27. As representative of India on this Committee I took opportunity to speak on the subject. In my speech I welcomed the report of the health organisation and expressed India's appreciation of the work carried out by the Organisation. I pointed out that India was deeply interested in this work and that in order to co-ordinate the measure taken by the Central and Provincial Governments in this direction, steps were being taken to establish a Central Public Health Advisory Board for the entire country. Referring to the danger of entry by aeroplane through the airport of Karachi, from Africa, of persons or mosquitoes infected with yellow fever I emphasized not only in respect of the large Indian population which was not immune to yellow fever, but another aspect was that from the point of view of air traffic, India was the gateway of the further East and the countries beyond India were, therefore, also interested in the protection of India. I expressed a hope that the measures of ensuring protection against yellow fever recommended by Major General Sir Cuthbert Sprawson to the Pan-African Health Conference held at Johannesburg, would be put into effect. I also referred to:—

(1) The nutritional laboratories at Coonoor for vitamin standards, and

(2) Col. Chopra's laboratories at the Calcutta school of medicine for hormones and drug standards,

as the institutions that had been established according to the recommendations of the above Conference; and added that the Government of India were further considering the opening of a section of the All-India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health at Calcutta for pharmacological and biological assay of drugs as an initial stage in the formation of a Central laboratory for the control and standardization of drugs.

I further pointed out that a subject in which India had shown the keenest interest since 1932 was that of rural hygiene in the East. It was, I stated, very gratifying to learn that a preparatory commission had studied, conditions in the Far East with a view to preparing a useful programme of work for the Conference to be held at Java.

Lastly, I made special reference to the problem which presented very different features in East and West, *viz.*, housing and more particularly rural housing and laid stress on the necessity of supplementing the studies now in progress in the field by special studies of Eastern countries, where conditions were widely different.

Nutrition.

28 The Health Organisation of the League has been engaged for some years in the study of the problem of nutrition in general and also with special reference to the safe-guarding of public health in periods of

economic depression. The marked interest in the subject is due in the first place to a realisation of the possibilities of great improvements in public health through better nutrition; but while these factors were undoubtedly uppermost, the interest displayed is also due to the fact that, through improved nutrition, it should be possible to contribute, firstly towards a solution of national and international agricultural problems and, secondly, towards an improvement in the world economic situation. A resolution adopted by the Assembly provided for the continuation and extension of the work of the League Health Organisation on nutrition in relation to public health, for the collection by the League of information on measures taken in all countries for securing improved nutrition, and for the appointment of a Mixed Committee, including agricultural, economic and health experts, to submit a report on the whole question in its health and economic aspects to the Assembly of 1936. At this year's session, the Second Committee considered an *ad interim* report of the Mixed Committee and certain other documents connected with the question and adopted three resolutions. The object of these resolutions was to ask the Governments concerned to encourage and support the scientific study of nutrition problems, as well as the dissemination by education and propaganda, of the information collected as the result of such study and to support the efforts of the League Health Organisation and other international bodies in the same field. The resolutions also recommended to the Governments concerned to give their full support to the Health Organization in its inquiries into the widespread malnutrition which exists in the tropics and certain Far Eastern Countries.

29. During the discussion on this subject, I took the opportunity to lay stress on the keen interest taken by India in the problem of nutrition. I referred to the speech of His Excellency the Viceroy in the Legislative Assembly and quoted the following sentence from it:—

> "The problem of nutrition is at all times one of vital concern to any country and on its solution hinges essentially the future of India as a whole."

I referred to the work that was being done in this direction by Dr. Aykroyd as Director of Nutrition Research Laboratory at Coonoor and by Dr. Ellis C. Wilson, Professor of Nutrition and Bio-Chemistry at the All-India Institute of Hygiene of Public Health, Calcutta. I also referred to the recommendation of the Nutrition Advisory Committee of the Indian Research Fund Association for a survey of the State of nutrition in relation to dietary habits throughout India, for a survey of food production in India, and for liaison between human nutrition work and crop productions.

30. There was one point that I emphasised particularly. I pointed out that the work carried out in Europe could not be applied to Eastern countries without making allowance for differences in climate, physique, economic conditions and social and other customs, and consequently, there were distinct features of the problem to be investigated in India.

Economic and Financial Organisation.

31. The Committee adopted four resolutions. The first urgently recommended all States whether members of the League or not, to reduce excessive obstacles to international trade and communications,

especially quotas and exchange controls. The second asked the Council to appoint a Committee to examine the question of commercial access to raw materials. The third drew attention to the possibilities of fiscal evasion resulting from freer international circulation of capital, and asked the fiscal committee to pursue its work for the avoidance of double taxation and for the promotion of international assistance designed to put down fiscal evasion. The fourth requested the Council to follow the work of the forthcoming Migration Conference, and decided to place the question of emigration on the agenda of the next session of the Assembly.

32. In the course of the discussion on the subject, Mr. Biswas stated that it was essential for the economic prosperity of India that she should have a substantial surplus of exports over imports and she was, therefore, averse from the conclusion of clearing agreements in respect of any considerable portion of her export trade. He pointed out that the Government of India had not so far found it necessary to enter into clearing agreements with other countries nor to place restrictions on imports into India. India continued to be in the main a supplier of raw materials and it was, therefore, essential for her prosperity that her access to world markets should be unrestricted. In conclusion, Mr. Biswas asked that in the setting up of the proposed Committee on Access to Raw materials the claims of India to representation should be taken into consideration.

The Third Committee.

Reduction and Limitation of Armaments.

33. The Third Committee which deals exclusively with questions relating to disarmament, did not meet during the Assembly meetings in the years 1932 to 1935, owing to the existence of the Disarmament Conference. But as neither the conference nor any of its committees had met for a long time it was found necessary to form the Third Committee this year. The Committee's discussions revealed a general desire that inspite of all the setbacks of the past, and the manifest difficulties of the present situation some initiative should be taken towards the limitation of armaments. It was suggested that such initiative should be on the lines indicated by the Bureau in 1934, such as regulation of the manufacture of and trade in arms, publicity of national defence expenditure, and the establishment of a Permanent Disarmament Commission. It was generally agreed that, while in existing circumstances, work towards the limitation of armaments could best be undertaken on lines such as these, the task of elaborating a programme of action should be left to the Bureau.

The Fourth Conference.

The League Budget.

34. The discussions in the Fourth Committee to which Mr. C. C. Biswas contributed freely on behalf of India, again reflected the substantial improvements that have taken place during the past two years in the budgetary position of the League as a result largely of strenuous efforts to secure economies and to place the finances on a sound basis.

35. The budget figure for the year 1932 stood at 33,687,994 francs, while that estimated for the year 1937 is 28,729,497 francs. It is, therefore, gratifying to note that the League's expenses have been reduced by about 14 per cent., during the last five years.

General Remarks.

36. In the course of the general discussions of the Committee, Mr. Biswas pleaded for the appointment of a greater number of Indians on the Secretariat and for the amalgamation of the Secretariat's Branch Office at Bombay with the International Labour Organisation's Branch Office at Delhi. The amalgamation would strengthen both offices and reduce the expenditure.

Allocation of expenses.

37. The combined expenses of the League of Nations, the International Labour Organisation and the Permanent Court of International Justice are distributed among the Member States according to a scale of assessment worked out by a committee of the Allocation of Expenses and approved by the Assembly. A claim was made on behalf of India for a reduction of her assessment in consequence of the separation of Burma from 1st April 1937. The Committee considered that the claim was justified and accordingly recommended the reduction of Indian assessment from 56 to 49 units. The contribution expressed in gold francs was 1,849,600 in 1933, 1,583,000 in 1936 and only 1,130,000 in 1937. Thus there was a substantial reduction in India's contribution to the expenses of the League.

The Fifth Committee.

Social and Humanitarian.

38. One of the aspects of the League's activity which is of most direct interest to India is its work on social and humanitarian subjects. I was associated with the committee dealing with these subjects at the Assembly Session of 1934. This year too I had the privilege of taking part in the discussions on these important subjects.

Opium and other Dangerous Drugs.

39. The subject of opium comes up every year before the League. I took opportunity of explaining the Government of India's policy of reducing and finally extinguishing the export of opium from India. According to this policy all exports of opium from India, with the exception of exceedingly small quantities occasionally sent to the United Kingdom and few other places, for purely medicinal and scientific purposes had ceased since 1935. This meant a great financial sacrifice for India, as the revenue from the export of opium, which fell from £7¼ millions to £1¼ million between 1910-11 and 1914-15, had now entirely ceased. This was convincing evidence of India's desire to assist in securing the improvement of the world situation in regard to the trade in opium and drugs.

The Committee thought that action to limit the production of raw materials would be the most effective means of combating clandestine manufacture and illicit traffic. It was therefore resolved to hold two preliminary conferences in 1936. One of the conferences is to be devoted to the discussion of the problems relating to the raw opium necessary for the manufacture of drugs and another to the discussion of the problems concerning the raw opium necessary for monopolies of opium for smoking.

Traffic in women and children.

40. The subject discussed by the Committee included the draft convention for the suppression of the exploitation of prostitution, the inquiry into the measures for the rehabilitation of prostitutes, and the position of women of Russian origin in the Far East. Special interest was shown in the conference of Central Authorities in Eastern countries, which is to be held in Java in February 1937. I explained that as the main interest of the conference would be international traffic which did not concern India, the Government of India felt that no advantage would be gained by India being represented on the conference. However, in view of the desire expressed by the Advisory Committee and elsewhere, the Government of India had agreed to be represented. Their delegate would probably be an Indian Lady with special knowledge of the subject. It is hoped that the Conference would lead to the adoption by the Governments concerned of measures for the effective suppression of the evil.

Child Welfare.

41. It was generally recognised in the Committee that the chief concern of the committee on social questions should be the normal child; and so, that committee should direct its attention more particularly to preventive action. It was resolved that the subjects for study by the new advisory Committee on social questions should be the extension of child welfare work to populations living elsewhere than in large towns, the nutrition of children and mothers and the general organisations of child welfare, comparing the methods adopted and the results obtained in various countries.

42. In the course of the discussions I referred to the marked interest shown towards child welfare work in India in the recent years. I, however, expressed a hope that the Advisory Committee on social questions would not be tempted to launch into too vast a programme at the outset. Results of practical value could only be secured if efforts were concentrated on a few important subjects. I also pointed out that it was necessary to remember that child welfare work varied enormously from country to country and those variations were natural and often rooted in religion. Hasty international action was thus apt to do more harm than good, and the scope of international conventions was necessarily limited. I urged that the advisory Committee's activity should be confined to the collection and dissemination of facts likely to be of value to governments and to social workers and that action should be left to the initiative of national agencies.

International Relief Union.

43. The Union has been doing valuable work for the protection of human life in national calamities. The aim of the Union is not to displace existing organisations or to collect funds. but to act as a centre for advice and co-ordination. In pursuance of this aim, valuable contacts have recently been established with various international organisations. I took the opportunity, of expressing the gratitude of the Government of India for the valuable help rendered by the Union after the earthquake in Baluchistan.

THE SIXTH COMMITTEE.

Intellectual Co-operation Organisation.

44. The Committee was unanimous in expressing the appreciation of the past achievements and future programme of the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation in Paris. These bodies are concerned in a very wide range of activities which include the encouragement of education in the aims and achievements of the League of Nations, the preparation of international agreements, and assistance in organising collaboration and exchange of views between the learned men of different countries. Recent efforts have also been made to encourage the teaching of history and geography in such a manner as to promote understanding between nations.

45. Particular satisfaction was expressed at the conclusion of an International Convention on the use of Broadcasting in the cause of Peace. This had been effected at an inter-governmental conference which had met at Geneva a few days before the opening of the Assembly. India is a signatory to this Convention.

46. In the course of the discussions I said that India, having made a notable contribution to human knowledge in philosophy and religion, was deeply interested in the question of intellectual co-operation. I stressed particularly the value of establishing cultural contact between the East and the West. Inter-University Board of India, which consists of representatives of all the universities in India, has agreed to act as the National Centre on subjects relating to intellectual co-operation. It is expected that the Board would render the work of the Intellectual Co-operation Organisation better known in India.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

47. I cannot conclude this account without expressing my sincere gratitude to His Highness the Aga Khan whose wide experience of affairs and personal acquaintance with statesmen in most countries of Europe was a most valuable asset to the Delegation. Sir Denys Bray has been on the Indian Delegation since 1930 and always placed his experience very readily at the disposal of the Delegation. Mr. Biswas was serving for the first time and his active collaboration in the work of the Delegation was of the utmost value.

I beg to remain,

Your Highness,

Your Highness' most obedient servant,

(Sd.) V. T. KRISHNAMACHARI.

APPENDIX II.

To

HIS HIGHNESS THE CHANCELLOR,
THE CHAMBER OF PRINCES.

YOUR HIGHNESS,

I have the honour to submit herewith my report on the work done by me at Geneva as a delegate to the 16th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the League of Nations. I much regret that owing to my serious illness I could not submit it earlier.

INTRODUCTORY.

I was appointed a delegate to the Assembly of the League of Nations for the year 1935. The Assembly met at Geneva in the month of September. This brief report is on the working of the League of Nations in that session. I have, however, tried to make this report self-contained in the hope that those who do not know much about the organisation and working of the League of Nations may, without any external help, follow the working of the League as embodied in this report.

I reached London on 31st August, 1935, and immediately put myself in touch with the Department of the India Office which was in charge of the work in connection with the delegates from India to the Assembly. I was given a large mass of papers including briefs prepared by the Department. I found the briefs to be very full and accurate and the papers supplied by the Department containing all information regarding the subjects to be dealt with by the Assembly at Geneva.

The Indian delegation consisted of His Highness the Aga Khan as the leader, Sir Denys Bray, I.C.S., (retired), member of the Secretary of State's Council, and myself. There was a substitute delegate, Mr. B. K. Basu, C.I.E., member of the Council of State, India.

There were 59 states who were members of the League of Nations in 1935. Of these Germany had given the usual two years' notice of withdrawal in 1933 and Paraguay gave similar notice early in 1935. So, there were really 57 effective members of the League of Nations in September, 1935, when the Assembly met.

I reached Geneva on 7th September, and, along with other members of the Indian delegation, stayed at Hotel Beau Rivage. The delegates from Great Britain were also staying in the same Hotel. I stayed in Geneva up to 28th September.

After touring the eastern countries, *viz.*, Switzerland, Austria, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Greece, Turkey, Syria, and Palestine, I took the boat at Port Said and reached India on 6th November, 1935.

CONSTITUTION OF THE LEAGUE.

The League of Nations was set up by Part I of the Treaties of Versailles, Saint-Germain, Neuilly, and Triano, and came into force in January, 1920. The object was to form an association of self-governing states on "organised and permanent lines in an effort to broaden the basis of peace and to lessen the chances of war." The members of the

League have agreed to promote international co-operation and achieve international peace and security by (1) accepting the obligation of not resorting to war, (2) prescribing open and honourable relations among nations, (3) establishing international law as the rule of conduct among Governments, and (4) maintaining justice and respect for all treaty obligations in their mutual dealings.

The constitutional organs of the League consist of the Assembly, the Council, and the Permanent Secretariat. There are two other branches of the League, namely, the Permanent Court of International Justice at Hague and the International Labour Organisation at Geneva, which are independent bodies but whose budgets are passed by the Assembly. There are also auxiliary bodies of various kinds, mostly technical. The relations between the Assembly and the Council are somewhat vague, their jurisdiction, excepting in a few cases, being the same. Yet so far no conflict has actually arisen between the decisions of the Assembly and those of the Council. This testifies to the cordial relations between the two bodies. Except in a few specified matters decisions of the Assembly and the Council must be unanimous. But consent of the parties to the dispute is not required for this purpose. When a dispute has been referred to the Assembly a decision requires only a majority of the Assembly but this must include all the members of the Council. The reason behind this principle of unanimity is the recognition of the national sovereignty of the member states.

The Assembly.

The Assembly consists of delegates from members of the League. Each member state sends not more than three representatives. They may have substitutes and be assisted by advisors. The minimum effective delegation is two persons, for committees may meet simultaneously. The authority of delegates is scrutinised by a Credentials Committee of nine persons elected by the Assembly.

The General Committee which deals with procedure consists of the President, Vice-Presidents, and Chairmen of the six main committees.

The work of the Assembly is distributed among six Committees on which every member state has one representative. These committees are for (1) legal and constitutional questions, (2) technical organisations of the League, (3) reduction of armaments, (4) budget and financial questions, (5) social and general questions, and (6) political questions. In 1932, 1933, 1934, and 1935 the third Committee was not formed since the Disarmament Conference was in session dealing with practically the same questions. That Conference was organised on a broader basis including states which were not members of the League, *e.g.*, United States, Japan.

All the sessions of the Assembly, and most of those of the Council, are public, publicity being the rule both for meetings and for documents. The languages used are French and English. The voting in the Assembly is done by states so that the delegates from one country have a single vote. The Assembly takes action by the adoption of resolutions and recommendations. The annual ordinary session of the Assembly is held on the second Monday of September. Besides this ordinary session there may be other sessions if required by its work. For example, in 1935 the Assembly met later in the year, after the ordinary sessions, to consider the situation arising out of the Italo-Abyssinian War.

The Council.

The number of members of the Council has varied from time to time. being 8 in 1920 and 14 in 1935. There are now four permanent members namely, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, France, Italy, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The other members take turns and are appointed for a period of three years. The Council acts on behalf of all the states and not merely on behalf of those who are represented on it. It has a wide variety of powers and duties under the constitution and has accepted others under various treaties. The Council, according to its constitution, must meet at least four times a year; actually it has met more frequently.

The Secretariat.

The Secretariat at Geneva is an international civil service. It comprises the Secretary-General and the staff of officers. The officials, when engaged in official work, as also their offices enjoy diplomatic privileges and immunities. The total number so employed are about 675. There are fourteen sections into which the Secretariat is divided besides a very good library which is maintained by it.

Auxiliary Organisations.

Auxiliary organisations are organisations created by the Council and Assembly to carry out the provisions of the Covenant and international treaties. The work consists of investigation, collection of data, elaboration of proposals, and preparation of draft decisions. They may be permanent or temporary, the members being usually appointed for specified periods. The purpose of these bodies is two-fold, *viz.*, (1) to help the Assembly or the Council with expert advice and (2) to aid the members of the League to fulfil their international duties by facilitating direct contact among their technical representatives. There are four types of such auxiliary organisations, *viz.*, (1) technical organisations, (2) standing advisory commissions or committees, (3) sub-committees, permanent or temporary, appointed by the Assembly, the Council, or the Advisory Committees, and (4) institutes entrusted with executive functions. Sometimes one organisation may perform functions under more than one of the above heads.

Technical organisations.

Technical organisations consist of (1) an advisory or technical committee of experts with power to appoint sub-committees, (2) conferences of representatives of states (members of the League or other States), and (3) a section of the Secretariat. The main organisations under this head are economic, financial, communications and transit, health, and intellectual co-operation.

The standing advisory commissions or committees are the permanent advisory commission for military, naval and air questions, the permanent mandates commission, control of narcotics, protection, and welfare, especially traffic in women and child welfare. Under sub-committees there are the commission of enquiry for European union, the advisory committee of experts on slavery, and the inter-governmental advisory commission for refugees.

Institutes with Executive functions.

There are three types of institutes with executive functions, (1) Institutes as instruments of international co-operation. These are for unification of private law, cinematograph, and leprosy research, (2) Bureaus "under the direction of the League". These are for relief of foreigners, hydrographic bureau, control of liquor traffic in Africa, air navigation, Nansen refugees office, and exhibitions, (3) Separate bodies as advisory organs. These are for agriculture, red cross, etc.

WORKING OF THE LEAGUE.

A number and variety of administrative duties are performed by the League. These can be classified under the main headings of international administration, international co-ordination and co-operation, social and humanitarian activities, regional and special questions, international legislation, reduction of armament, and pacific settlement of disputes.

International administration covers the following items.—

International Administration.

(1) *Registration and publication of treaties.*—Under the Covenant every treaty or international engagement by the members of the League must be registered with the Secretariat. Publicity is expected to awaken public interest and create a favourable moral atmosphere for international amity. Up to June, 1935, the total registration was 3,688.

(2) *The administration of Saar Basin.*—This, after the plebiscite of January, 1935, has ceased to form part of the duties of the League.

(3) *Administration of the free city of Danzing which was created by the treaty of Versailles.*—The High Commissioner who is appointed by the League is directly under its control and reports to it.

(4) *Mandates.*—The colonies of the Central Powers which were given as mandated territories to some of the Allies are administered by the League and the mandatory Powers have to report to the League.

(5) *Slavery.*—During 1922-26 inquiries were made into the status of persons in African mandated areas. As a result of this the slavery convention of 1926 came into operation from 1927. The mandatory powers undertook to prevent and suppress slave trade and to bring about a complete abolition of slavery in all its forms.

(6) *Protection of Minorities.*—The treaties of peace created minority obligations in the newly created states in Europe. For safeguarding minority interests certain rules were developed. The function of the League is to see that these rules are observed by the states in which the minority communities are situated. The question of minorities, however, is so intimately connected with political questions and is so delicate that it has been possible to take little practical action by the League in this regard.

International Co-ordination and Co-operation.

International co-ordination and co-operation comprises the International Labour Organisation, the Economic Organisation, Financial Organisation, Intellectual co-operation, Communications and transit, and the Health Organisation.

International Labour Organisation.

The Covenant is expected to look after the maintenance of "fair and humane conditions of labour for men, women, and children". All the members of the League are members of this organisation. Besides these Brazil, Japan, and the United States are also members. The Secretariat of the Organisation is an independent body, namely the International Labour Office, with its own Director. There are several sections into which the office of this Secretariat is divided. Every year the International Labour Conference meets at Geneva. Recommendations of the members are made and their opinions received. The decisions of the Conference are intended to establish and raise international social standards. For the effective observance of conventions representation to the International Labour Office is allowed from an industrial association of employers, or of workers within each state.

Economic Organisation.

All economic problems affecting trade among countries are dealt with by the Economic Organisation. A lot of work has been done in facilitating international commerce and the study of economic problems. The Statistical Year Book co-ordinates and presents, in a comparative form, all relevant facts and figures connected with the economic development of the various countries. Laws regarding bills of exchange have been co-ordinated and industrial agreement facilitated. A mass of useful data have been collected regarding the production, marketing, transport, and consumption of some of the most widely used commodities in the world. Monetary policies have been discussed and customs practices simplified.

Financial Organisation.

After the work of reconstruction had been finished the following three types of activity were undertaken by the Financial Organisation: (1) General financial questions affecting double taxation of income, counterfeiting currency, the gold problem, and assistance by way of loans to Governments, *e.g.*, Austria, Hungary, Greece, Bulgaria, Danzig; (2) advice and assistance to particular states; and (3) advice on financial questions.

Intellectual Co-operation.

The object of intellectual co-operation is "international collaboration with a view to promoting the progress of general civilisation and diffusion of science, letters, and arts". Some good handbooks have been published and arrangements for exchange of ideas made, as also for the instruction of youth. Broadcasting in order to promote peace mentality has been organised and a scheme of adult education drawn up.

Communications and transit.

Several conferences were held and standardised practices in the field of communications by means of international conventions have been developed. Also technical and administrative co-operation has been promoted. News service has been developed and passport regulations simplified. Also this organisation has successfully dealt with navigable waterways, maritime ports buoyage and lighting, transmission of power, calendar reform, national public works, pollution of the sea by oil, and road and railway traffic.

Health Organisation.

Very successful work has been done in the field of international co-operation by the Health Organisation. It has dealt with epidemics, interchange of officials, biological standards, rural hygiene, and special problems like cancer, sleeping sickness, tuberculosis, etc.

Under the type social and humanitarian work the following are included:

Social and Humanitarian activities.

(1) *Suppression of opium traffic.*—Since 1912 attempt has been made to suppress opium traffic. In 1925, the opium convention was set up which was accepted by forty-one Governments. The production of opium is limited, and its traffic between countries strictly regulated.

(2) *Traffic in women.*—After a series of conferences a system of protection for minor girls and destitute women was developed.

(3) *Child welfare.*—In 1924, the "Declaration of Genova" was endorsed which is considered to be the "charter" of child welfare. The child is looked after and is "brought up in the consciousness that its talents must be devoted to the service of its fellowmen".

(4) *Refugees and relief of distress.*—This branch of humanitarian activity was necessitated by the large numbers of refugees from Germany, Russia, Armenia, and Assyria. It also helped the evacuation of Greeks from Asia Minor and of Turks from Macedonia.

Regional and Special Activities.

Regional activity, or collaboration with individual members of the League, is to be found in many branches of the League's activity. The most important cases are the European Union started in 1929 on the suggestion of Briand and the Pan-American Union. Also useful work along this line has been done in China and Liberia.

International Legislation.

By 1935, through the League of Nations about one hundred international instruments had been concluded by diplomatic conferences and negotiations. The Permanent Court of International Justice adjudicates in case of disputes between countries.

Reduction of Armaments.

Under the Covenant the Council of the League is required to formulate plans for the reduction of national armaments consistent with national safety and taking into account the geographical situation of the countries concerned. Unfortunately, in spite of repeated endeavours in recent years including the Disarmament Conference of 1932-35, very little could be actually achieved, mainly owing to the atmosphere of suspicion created by the political situation in Europe during the last few years. The most important achievement, however, was the Naval Agreement between Great Britain, the United States, and Japan.

Pacific settlement of disputes.

Through the intervention of the council of the League many disputes among countries have been amicably settled and in some cases, through this machinery the parties to the dispute were enabled to discuss the

questions at issue in a friendly atmosphere. The successful cases are those of Memel, Albanian frontier, disputes between Lithuania and Poland, Russia and Iran, Bolivia and Chile, Peru and Chile, Costa Rica and Panama, and frontier disputes between Austria and Hungary, Hungary and Roumania, Greece and Italy, and Greece and Bulgaria.

WORK OF THE SIXTEENTH (ORDINARY) SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY.

The sixteenth (ordinary) session of the League of Nations met from 9th to 28th September, 1935. It adjourned and met again on 9th, 10th, and 11th October and then again adjourned.

Fifty-four out of the fifty-nine member States of the League were represented. The Indian delegates were assigned to the Committees as below:—

Credentials Committee	Mr. B. K. Basu.
First Committee	Mr. B. K. Basu.
Second Committee	Sir S. M. Bapna.
	Mr. B. K. Basu.
Fourth Committee	Sir Denys Bray.
	Mr. B. K. Basu.
Fifth Committee	Sir Denys Bray.
	Sir S. M. Bapna.
Sixth Committee	Sir Denys Bray.
	Sir S. M. Bapna.

M. Benes, Foreign Minister (now President) of Czechoslovakia was elected President. In the general debate which took place during the first five days of the session thirty-two countries participated, including India, His Highness the Aga Khan speaking on behalf of India.

The First Committee.

The First Committee discussed the question about the nationality of women and after thanking women's associations for their assistance to the League in this field, renewed its recommendation to Governments to ratify the Hague Convention. For the first time the question about the status of women came before the Assembly and the Committee divided it into two parts: *viz.*, (*a*) the political and civil status of women and (*b*) the position of women in industry. The Committee thought the latter part as falling within the scope of the International Labour Organisation and with regard to the former it recommended the collection of data about the status of women in different countries by the Secretary-General.

Regarding the question of voting whether it should be unanimous or only simple majority when advisory opinion was requested from the Permanent Court of International Justice the Committee recommended the examination of the whole question by the Council.

The work of the International Institute at Rome for the unification of Private Law was discussed for the first time in the Assembly. The Committee took note of the work of the Institute and drew the attention of governments to the desirability of giving early and favourable consideration to the draft laws regarding commercial arbitration and to two further questions, *viz.*, the conclusion of contracts between absent persons and the civil responsibility of motorists.

The second Committee dealt with the question of the problem of pollution of the sea by oil and recommended to the Council to examine the whole question and convene a conference of Governments, if necessary, and seek the advise of experts.

The Second Committee.

Then it dealt with the work of the Health Organisation. I drew attention to the good work which the Government of India were doing in this connection, especially with regard to rural hygiene (*vide* appendix 1). India had been benefited by the work of the Eastern Bureau at Singapore and with regard to tuberculosis much good work had been done. The technical questions regarding prevention of the transmission of yellow fever discussed by the Regional Health Conference at Cape Town in 1932 were very beneficial from India's point of view.

Regarding nutrition the Committee recommended the extension and continuance of the present work by the Health Organisation of the League and also suggested the formation of a committee, including agricultural, economic, and health experts, to go into the whole question and submit a report to the next Assembly. The League was asked to collect information in consultation with the International Labour Organisation and the International Institute of Agriculture on the measures to be taken by the various Governments.

Regarding the report of the Economic and Financial Organisation discussions in the Committee showed an increasing desire for currency stabilisation and a conviction of the necessity for increasing foreign trade and for modifying commercial policy on more liberal lines, Mr. B. K. Basu congratulated the Economic Committee on its attitude towards agricultural protectionism. The Committee recommended that Governments should adopt the policy of freer trade through bilateral agreements.

The Fourth Committee.

The budget of the League was discussed by the Fourth Committee. The current budget reflected the efforts on the part of the various Governments, not least on that of India, to secure economies in the League administration and to place the League's finances on a sound basis.

The budget, finally approved for 1936, was 28,279,901 (Swiss) francs as compared with 30,639,664 francs for 1935. The Supervisory Commission recommended reductions aggregating 1,950,000 francs. These were to be achieved by postponing the building plan of the International Labour Organisation and reductions in the League Secretariat in such items as "unforeseen expenditure of the Council". With regard to the Permanent Court of International Justice also a similar arrangement was suggested. This report after some criticism was adopted.

The question of the settlement of Assyrians in Iraq, over twenty thousand in number, also came before this Committee. The Committee adopted the recommendation of the Supervising Commission that the League should grant 1,300,000 francs for those who wanted to leave Iraq, the sum to be spread over four years.

The Committee noted with satisfaction that considerable progress had been made in dealing with the settlement of arrears of contribution. The Committee recommended that settlements made should be on the understanding that failure to pay the contribution as well as the instalment of arrears would *ipso facto* cancel the settlement and revive the debt in full. The progress in this direction was welcome, for 47 out of 48 member states were in good standing whereas at the end of the session of the Assembly in 1934 the states not in default numbered only 35.

The progress with the allied question of the allocation of the expenses of the League was much more limited. The Fourth Committee appointed a new and somewhat larger Allocation Committee of delegates and experts actually present in the Fourth Committee. The Fourth Committee accepted its recommendation to the effect that for 1936, the states should contribute the same number of units as for 1935 except China whose share was reduced to 42.

In the course of the general debate on the budget Mr. B. K. Basu congratulated the authorities on the considerable reduction made in the budget of 1936. He highly appreciated the work of the Supervising Commission, for the original appointment of which the Indian delegation had been largely responsible. He also drew attention to the fact that the number and status of Indians employed in various organisations of the League were not in proportion to the amount of India's contribution. India was contributing the largest amount except those who were permanent members of the Council, and, therefore, a larger number of suitably qualified Indians should be employed by the League.

The Fifth Committee.

The question of the women of Russian origin in the Far East who had either become prostitutes or were in danger of falling into prostitution received attention of the Fifth Committee when the matter regarding traffic in women and children came for discussion. Ultimately a resolution was passed for securing the services of a woman agent to co-ordinate the work of the organisations for preventive and rescue work of these women, provided that it did not make the League liable to extra expenditure.

In this connection I pointed out (*vide* appendix II) that there were in India very strict laws against traffic in women. Further legislation was not, therefore, necessary. But if the League recommended a convention in order to make the laws of all countries uniform, the Government of India would give due consideration to the proposal.

The question of child welfare fell under two parts, *viz.*, (1) those children who are young offenders, blind, and destitute and (2) normal children. Here I struck a note of warning (*vide* appendix III) against extending the League's activities beyond collection of information. This was rather a domestic question and there were many Acts in India for the amelioration of children. The Committee ultimately resolved that the treatment of delinquent children should be directed towards education rather than punishment.

Although great progress had been made by the League in checking illicit traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs yet much remained to be done. Illicit traffic was conducted by drawing supplies from clandestine factories. I drew attention to the various laws restricting illicit traffic prevalent in India even before the Hague Convention and the formation of the League (*vide* appendix IV). The President thanked me for this information and the Chinese delegate thanked the Government of India for the manner in which they were keeping agreement with his country.

The Committee had before it the standard minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners drawn up by the International Penal and Penitentiary Commission. The Government of India reported that these rules had been followed in British India and that the gaol administration was much in advance of the requirements of these rules.

Then the report of the International Relief Union from July, 1933, to December, 1934, came up before the Committee. India was specially grateful for the valuable assistance of £1,000 to the Indian Red Cross for helping the victims of the Bihar earthquake. It was also under obligation for the circulation of an appeal to member states, which met with general response from a number of Governments after the Quetta earthquake had taken place. Sir Denys Bray expressed India's gratitude which made a good impression on the members.

The Sixth Committee.

The question of refugees fell under two parts, *viz.*, (1) the work of the Nansen International Office for refugees, and (2) general questions of international assistance to refugees. The Assyrian question referred to in the report of a previous Committee also came up for discussion. Up to June 30, 1935, there were 1,000,000 Russian, Armenian, Assyrian, Assyro-Chaldean, Saar, and Turkish refugees. In order to avoid the contingency that all these refugees might come to depend for relief on the finances of the League alone, a Sub-Committee was appointed to go into the question without incurring any expenditure unless the sanction of the Assembly had been given for it.

The Assyrian question was, however, solved by a scheme for the settlement of Assyrians in the French mandated territories of the Levant, the cost of settlement being shared among the Iraqi Government, the United Kingdom, and the French mandated territories of the League.

Then the report of the League organisation for Intellectual co-operation came up before this Committee. I pointed out India's deep interest in the important question of intellectual co-operation (*vide* appendix V). Cultural contact between the East and the West was highly desirable and I pleaded for wider dissemination of information about the League. The Rapporteaur promised to bear this in mind while making his report.

The report about the dispute between Bolivia and Paraguay also came up before this Committee. This dispute came before the Assembly for the first time in 1934 at the request of Bolivia. The Assembly appointed an advisory committee of eight to try the method of conciliation and ultimately it succeeded in bringing about peace between the two countries.

The Committee had before it the report of the Advisory Committee of experts on slavery. It pointed out many difficulties in the collection of data because many governments did not respond to the request for the supply of such materials. Sir Denys Bray commended the work of the Advisory Committee which was being done in spite of many difficulties. The Government of India, he said, always chary of signing anything it could not carry out to the letter, had been constrained to make two reservations when ratifying the Slavery Convention. One was about the special relations of the Government of India with the Indian States, and the other, about inaccessible regions in India.

ATMOSPHERE.

The atmosphere of Geneva during the time that the Assembly was in session was quite cordial. Representatives of various countries have, on such occasions, an opportunity of establishing close personal contacts which are bound to be of great value both in understanding one another's point of view and in creating that friendly feeling with which even important

disputes can be discussed without arousing hostility. Many social functions are held in which such close contact is possible. Besides private parties, etc., at which a smaller number can meet, there are functions given by the delegates of the various countries. Also there are other bodies, not directly connected with the League of Nations, which, at this time, carry on their activities at Geneva. Usually such bodies are for humanitarian, social, or religious purposes. Therefore, the political point of view, in which there may be conflicts, usually recedes into the background on such occasions. As an example I may mention that although the Italo-Abyssinian question was creating very strong feelings among the people at Geneva in September, 1935, yet the relations between the Italian delegates and others were not marred by any personal animosity. This, of course, was due, to a large extent, to the tact and good humour of Baron Aloisi.

Italo-Abyssinian Dispute.

In September, 1935, overshadowing all normal items of business of the Assembly, some of which were very important, hung the Italo-Abyssinian dispute. In creating interest and excitement this question may be said to have dominated the whole situation at Geneva in 1935. The history of the dispute is long and complicated. The problem at the time may be said to have started from the defeat of Italy at the hands of Abyssinia at Adowa in 1896. During the first quarter of the present century various agreements had been entered into among some of the European powers, especially Great Britain, France, and Italy, regarding their spheres of influence in East Africa including Abyssinia. The Italian interest lay mainly in the hinterland of the Red Sea coast whereas the English interest was concentrated mainly on the question of free use of water from Lake Tsana from which the Nile flows. The French interest was mainly regarding the coastal area.

Abyssinia became a member of the League of Nations in 1923. It is an irony of fate that its entry into the League was opposed by Great Britain and vigorously supported by Italy. Within a few years, however, Italy and Abyssinia fell out on the question of Italian concessions in exploiting the economic resources of Abyssinia. By 1928, the relations had become very much strained. From the latter part of 1934 Italy had been amassing both an army and ammunitions in Eritrea the object of which could only be an attack on Abyssinia. Abyssinia protested against this to the League of Nations, and the Council had on several occasions already considered the question before the Assembly met in September, 1935.

The general feeling at Geneva was strongly sympathetic towards Abyssinia. But unfortunately there were strong differences of opinion regarding the method and the nature of the action to be taken in the matter. The two rival schools might be said to be generally represented by the views of Great Britain and France, the former supporting strong measures and the latter supporting negotiations with Italy. The result was that action was delayed for lack of unanimity, an essential condition to enforce any decision of the League. The subsequent history of the dispute is well-known. At Geneva in September, 1935, the tense situation created anxiety not only regarding the action to be taken by the League but also regarding its reaction upon the general European situation. This had considerably deteriorated as a result of the change in

Government in Germany and, what was at that time suspected but later on proved to be a fact, the extensive re-armament of Germany. The situation was further complicated by somewhat strained feeling between England and France owing to the Italo-French treaty earlier in the year and the Anglo-German naval agreement following after. Also there was considerable political ferment in the Balkan countries. As a result great care had to be taken in suggesting any active measure against Italy although feeling for Abyssinia was very strong and widespread. This feeling was not confined to the politicians and the statemen assembled at Geneva, but permeated to a greater extent among other classes of people who congregated at Geneva at this time.

SOME REMARKS.

I should, however, mention some of the points to which a good deal of criticism is directed. One feature of the work done at Geneva is that the delegates are kept probably somewhat too busy to do any thing which requires a little leisure and the value of social functions is to some extent reduced by the hurry and bustle in which the delegates find themselves. The delegates' work begins at about 10 or 10·30 A.M. and is rarely finished before 8 P.M. or even later. Either after the session of the Assembly is over, the committees start their work, from then in the evening or if the Assembly session is not held, or is soon finished, the committees start functioning almost immediately after. This probably is due to the fact that delegates are from many distant places and are mostly very busy people. Therefore, they are anxious to finish the work as soon as possible and return to their respective countries.

From the point of view of non-European countries what appears to be a defect is that the Eropean situation practically fills the whole picture. There is no doubt that the European situation was, at least in 1935, more complex and threatening than the political situation in any other part of the world. Also complications arising elsewhere, unless localised, always have a European reaction. In spite of these obvious reasons for the great importance attached to European problems it is felt that non-European problems might be given greater prominence than they actually receive.

Coming directly to questions affecting India it is felt that there are justifiable causes of grievance with respect to some of its problems.

India has felt sorely and the Indian delegation has year after year protested at Geneva regarding the appointment of Indians in the League Secretariat. Of course, it is never suggested that appointment in the Secretariat should be on any basis other than that of efficiency. But undoubtedly there are a sufficient number of capable men in India who can undertake responsible work in the higher branches of the League Secretariat. Yet the number of Indians employed in the Secretariat is extraordinarily small. There are only three Indians in charge of sections and a few others—not more than three or four—in subordinate capacities. In spite of repeated protests year after year lodged by the Indian delegation it seems that little consideration has been given to this question at the League. I had an opportunity of placing this point of view personally before the Secretary-General and I found him sympathetic and willing to do whatever he could. But it seems that the vested interest of other countries has also to be taken into account.

Another matter, to which I would draw attention is that there are only two Bureaus in India, namely at Delhi and Bombay. It is felt that India,

being a vast country, in which ideas regarding the League have not properly crystallised and propaganda to develope League mentality has not flourished, should have more Bureaus both for focussing Indian opinion and for spreading League ideas. The Indian delegation in 1935 felt that two more Bureaus might with advantage be opened in India, namely at Calcutta and Madras.

Another point on which India may be said to have a grievance is regarding benefits obtained from the League. Various commissions or committees are sent to different countries of the world for investigation and co-ordination regarding technical aspects and social questions, especially about health and transport. Such investigations are always of great value to the country concerned. This also saves the country the expenses of carrying on such thorough investigation because the League pays for the expenses of its commissions or committees. Also services of highly technical experts, who otherwise might not be available for such work in the country, are more easily obtainable through the machinery of the League. India should try to have some of these commissions, or committees of the League, investigating special technical problems in India.

Conclusion.

In conclusion I should mention two points. The first is that the permanent officials assigned by the India Office to help the Indian delegation were found to do their work very efficiently. All information and papers required for the League's work were promptly supplied and all possible help given to the delegates in preparing for their work in the committees.

The second point which I should mention is regarding the usefulness of the League of Nations. In recent years, especially since 1934, the general public feeling seems to be hostile to the League. The main criticism is about its ineffectiveness in the political sphere. It is, however, easily forgotten that the League Constitution and the League machinery have limited application. It was never the intention that League should, in any matter supersede the sovereign states which are members of the League. It was meant to be a forum where open and frank discussion of political and other questions could be carried on and misapprehensions about the opposite point of view removed in a friendly atmosphere. Looked at from this point of view the League could not be expected to enforce any decision which is not more or less unanimous. For every decision of the League, by its constitution, must be unanimous. Thus it will be seen that taking a majority decision or enforcing it was never contemplated when the League was founded.

Yet the value of the League should be appreciated. Before its existence there was no machinery by which two or more states could discuss major political questions without immediately arousing suspicion and hatred in the rival camp. The League provides a machinery through which both the conflicting groups can discuss matters and thereby try, if possible, to come to an understanding regarding one another. Even if unanimity fail there is great value on such direct discussion of all the members interested in a particular question. Therefore, in my opinion the League as a consulting body of the member states has great usefulness.

S. M. BAPNA.

APPENDIX I.

Health organization.

I have much pleasure in expressing the appreciation of the Indian Delegation of the work of the Health Organisation of the League and I am glad to say that the contact that has been established between it and the Health Organisation of India has quickened the pace of progress in that sphere.

As regards rural hygiene, much progress has been made recently. The Government of India are giving a great deal of attention to rural uplift work which includes the problems of housing and of the health of the rural population. It is a colossal work and it will take a long time to achieve appreciable results.

The Government of India are grateful to learn that the preliminary arrangements for convening a conference on rural hygiene in the Far East have been made. The Government of India have in the meantime collected all relevant facts from the Provincial Governments and administrations and have forwarded them to the Director, League of Nations Health Organisation, Eastern Bureau, Singapore.

APPENDIX II

Traffic in women and children.

I entirely associate myself with what the delegate for the United Kingdom has said and further wish to place the view-point of the Government of India on the subject before the Committee.

In India there are very strict laws against traffickers in women. In view of this, the Government of India consider that it is not necessary to have any further special legislation on this subject. But if the League of Nations put forward any draft legislation in order to make the laws in various countries uniform, I am sure that the Government of India will give to it careful consideration with a view to any modification of the existing laws. In this connection I may also mention that so far as the internal traffic is concerned the special conditions prevailing in India as also the methods of work adopted by the traffickers in women should be taken into account in framing legislation. The existing Indian law has been framed with a view to this object. Therefore unless the league raises any special point of principle, I would suggest that the control and suppression of souteneurs, so far as internal traffic in women is concerned, should be left to individual countries according to the special circumstances prevailing within their territories.

APPENDIX III.

CHILD WELFARE.

With reference to the work of the Child Welfare Committee I should repeat what the Indian Delegation have repeatedly affirmed in the open meetings of the Assembly in 1925 and 1926. This is a subject which is the domestic concern of the States and the League's activity should be confined to collecting and disseminating facts which will be of use to social reformers and Governments of the countries concerned. Any direct action taken by the League is likely to frustrate the very object for which action will have been intended.

Coming now to the actual conditions in India, I am glad to be able to report that great improvements have taken place during the last fifteen years. The marriageable ages have been raised and in most of the Provinces laws have been enacted for the protection of children as also, in case of offences, for their segregation from ordinary criminals in order to employ them usefully during the period of detention. The Madras Juvenile Offenders Act of 1920 is typical of such legislation in India. As an alternative to ordinary punishment it provides for discharge under the care of the parent or a guardian. Provision is also made for their committal to an industrial school. Under the Act the Government is empowered to establish Juvenile Courts. Where this has not been done the Act directs that young offenders shall be tried in a different room or at a different time from those at which the ordinary sittings are held. Several schools are maintained or certified by Government for delinquent children. In some Provinces the Act provides for the committal to an industrial school of children found begging or destitute as also for offences against children. A special Police staff has been appointed for the administration of the Bengal Act and a Children's aid society has been formed. With the co-operation of these bodies a large number of children has been removed from brothels and given shelter. For Borstol school and "adolescent offender" is defined as one between the ages of 15 to 16 and 21 years of age. The period of detention in these institutions varies between two to five years. For delinquents below the age of fifteen there are Reformatory Schools in which the period of detention varies between three to seven years. In some provinces there are acts in which provision has been made for the boarding out of children and rescuing children from immoral surroundings.

The position in regard to cinematograph films in British India and some Indian States is that all films are censored, and films which are likely to create a bad impression on the minds of people of immature judgment are not allowed to be exhibited. In some provinces, arrangements are also made for cinema exhibitions for students on topics of an educational nature. It will thus be seen that steps have been taken to look after children, and to help them to reform and learn some useful occupation and to improve their health. The progress of the work so far made has been found to be satisfactory and we hope it will be maintained.

APPENDIX IV.

Opium.

The report of the Advisory Committee and the aide-memoire presented by the Rapporteur deal with all the important questions connected with the use or misuse of and traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs and I do not propose taking up the Committee's time by telling the Committee how these questions have been tackled by the Government of India.

The Government of India have, since 1910 when an agreement between India and China was concluded even before the Hague Convention of 1912, faithfully discharged their obligations under the different conventions and agreements accepted by them and have whole-heartedly supported and co-operated with the policy and principles of the League.

I may now say a word or two regarding the Bangkok agreement. On page 1 of the aide-memoire India is mentioned as a country which has not yet ratified the agreement. I am now glad to inform the Committee that the only obstacle in the way of ratification has now been removed and the Dangerous Drugs Act has just been passed in Burma and the Government of India are now in a position to ratify the Bangkok agreement.

APPENDIX V.

INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

At the outset I should like to express the Indian Delegation's sincere appreciation of the excellent report presented by the distinguished Rapporteur.

The subject of intellectual co-operation is very vast and important and India is deeply interested in this question. But I shall not take up much of the time of the Committee, and shall confine myself only to the question of instructions in international relations in India. India wants to be instructed, and I hope that in educational reorganisation a place will be given in the near future to the study of international relations and the ideals and activities of the League. India will welcome information regarding the League to be spread throughout the country, and for this reason we welcome the newly started Bureau of the League at Bombay. It is still in its infancy and I hope with increasing co-operation from Indians, and with more support from the League it may be able to do effective work before long. Our colleges and schools will welcome League literature and I hope this literature will be available in India in larger quantity than at present.

The League may also consider the desirability of initiating cultural contact between the East and the West. At present it seems that very little is known in the West regarding the ancient culture of India. If the House will permit me to say so, I should think that India's ancient culture deserves, even in modern times, to be widely studied by the western people. The contribution in philosophy and religion which India has made to the common stock of human knowledge provides a permanent and abiding lesson to mankind. I do not believe that the past of any country ever dies or ceases continuously to affect the national life of the future. Therefore a better understanding of modern India by the West can only come about with a fuller study of the past culture of India. I would very strongly recommend to the House to try to set up a machinery through which accurate information regarding the history of ancient Indian culture would be more widely known to the people of the West.

His Excellency the Viceroy: Your Highnesses have already seen the Report which may be taken as read.

Agendum No. 8.

To consider the recommendation of the Standing Committee regarding the Mail Robbery Rules.

His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur: Your Excellency; Your Highnesses: I now rise to present to you the report of the Standing Committee on the question of abrogation of Mail Robbery Rules as applicable to the Indian States.

Your Highnesses will remember that the Government of India have had under contemplation the promulgation of revised rules in regard to Mail Robberies in Indian States under which the Paramount Power reserved the right to claim and obtain compensation in any case, apart from individual dereliction of duty, where the robbery was found to be attributable to the failure of the Indian State concerned to make Police arrangements to secure the reasonable safety of life and property in any area or to afford suitable protection to roads over which mails were carried. The States have objected to this procedure which was based on the assumption that the States' administration of law and order does not come up to the mark. Whatever might have been the reasons which led to the promulgation of these rules, this is one of those matters with regard to which the States have felt that there remains no justification now. This matter has been under negotiations with the Government of India for several years past.

I am glad to be able to report that as a result of the labours of the Standing Committee the Government of India have decided that these rules are no longer necessary and can be abrogated forthwith. This was the decision intimated by the Political Secretary at the last meeting of the Standing Committee held on the 20th January, 1937.

In the notification that is proposed to be issued by the Government of India on the subject, a provision as regards the inherent responsibility of the State administrations for the protection of mails in transit in their territory is sought to be added, but the Political Secretary explained to the Standing Committee that this sentence referred to the States' responsibility for the maintenance of Law and Order.

In the light of the elucidation offered by the Political Secretary, Princes feel that a slight change in the wording would be desirable. It is proposed that the following sentence may take the place of the last sentence of the draft resolution:—

> "The State administrations will of course continue to make arrangements for the proper protection of mails in transit in their territories since the maintenance of Law and Order is the function of the Government of every State."

This would serve the purpose in view without implying more than is meant. I recommend this for Your Highness' acceptance.

May I now ask the House to give its approval in the usual way?

His Excellency the Viceroy: I am assuming that if any of Your Highnesses desires to speak on this business you will rise in your place and do so at the particular moment. I take it that none of Your Highnesses desire to speak on this subject.

(The amendment was approved.)

Agendum No. 9.

To consider the recommendation of the Standing Committee regarding amending Resolution No. F.-164-Pol. of 1929, dated the 7th September, 1929, on the subject of the employment in Indian States of European British subjects, pensioners and aliens, etc., etc.

His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur: Your Excellency, Your Highnesses: I now rise to present to you the report of the Standing Committee on the question of the amendment of the Government of India Resolution of 7th September, 1929, regarding the employment in Indian States of European British subjects, pensioners and aliens, etc.

This question also was discussed by the Political Secretary with the Standing Committee on the 20th January, 1937 when it was explained by him that under the provisions of the existing resolution, the consent of the Government of India was required for employment in Indian States of retired members of the Indian Civil Service or retired officers, whether European British subjects or Indian, who have served in the Political Department of the Government of India. The wordings employed in the text of the resolution required amplification on this point, so that the two classes of officers mentioned in this case, namely,

(1) retired members of the Indian Civil Service, and

(2) Officers who had served in the Political Department,

should be placed in distinct categories. Similarly, it was proposed to define the term "temporary engagement" applicable to professional people to whose employment the consent of the Government of India was not required This expression is now proposed to be defined as meaning a period not exceeding 3 months, whether continuous or otherwise. The Standing Committee felt that the period of 3 months was not adequate but they agreed to accept the proposed amendment, leaving it to time to show how the rule worked out in practice.

I commend both the amendments to Your Highnesses for your general approval.

His Excellency the Viceroy: The question is that this recommendation of the Standing Committee be now considered. Does any of Your Highnesses desire to speak on it?

(The amendments were approved.)

Agendum No. 10.

Elections.

His Excellency the Viceroy: The next business before the Chamber is the election of various Officers, and I think it will be to the convenience of Your Highnesses if I ask the Political Secretary, following the practice which, I understand, has obtained in the past, to read out the names of certain of Your Highnesses who do not wish their names to appear as candidates for any offices on this occasion.

The Honourable Sir Bertrand Glancy: Your Highnesses, the voting papers for the office of Chancellor will be distributed to all Members and Representative Members. Only Members of the Chamber in their own

right are eligible for election to the office of Chancellor. Only one name should be written on the voting paper. The voting paper should not be signed. The ballot box in which the slips will be placed will be laid on the Table. His Highness the Maharao of Cutch has notified that he does not desire to stand for the office of the Chancellor. His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner does not also wish to stand.

(The election was then conducted).

The Honourable Sir Bertrand Glancy: Your Highnesses, the result of the election is—His Highness of Patiala 30 votes, His Highness of Dholpur 13 votes. His Highness of Patiala is, therefore, elected.

His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala: Your Excellency, Your High nesses: I am deeply moved and touched by Your Highnesses' confidence in me. The confidence Your Highnesses have reposed in me I will try to carry out to the best of my ability. I again thank you.

The Honourable Sir Bertrand Glancy: Your Highnesses, the procedure as regards voting for the office of Pro-Chancellor is exactly the same as in the case of voting for the Chancellor. Only one name should be written and the papers should not be signed. The following members have notified that they do not wish to stand for the post of Pro-Chancellor:—

His Highness of Cutch,
His Highness of Dholpur,
His Highness of Bahawalpur,
His Highness of Bikaner.

(The election was then conducted.)
Your Highnesses, the result of the election for the office of Pro-Chancellor is:—

His Highness the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar — 40
His Highness of Rewa — 2

His Highness the Jam Saheb is, therefore, elected as Pro-Chancellor.

The next item is the election of members for the Standing Committee. Only 9 names excluding the Chancellor and Pro-Chancellor, should be entered on the voting paper. Only members of the Chamber in their own right are eligible. Voting papers should not be signed. The following members have given notice that they do not wish to stand for the Standing Committee:—

His Highness of Wankaner,
His Highness of Rampur,
His Highness of Dholpur,
His Highness of Jhalawar,
His Highness Maharao of Cutch, and
His Highness of Dewas (Junior).

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb of Wankaner has now decided that he will stand for the Standing Committee.

(The election was then conducted.)

The Honourable Sir Bertrand Glancy: Your Highnesses, the results of the election for the Standing Committee of 9 Members, excluding the Chancellor and Pro-Chancellor are:—

His Highness of Bahawalpur	...	...	39
His Highness of Dungarpur	...	...	36
His Highness of Bilaspur	..	...	35
His Highness of Wankaner	...	...	35
His Highness of Mandi	...	...	34
His Highness of Bikaner	...	...	32
His Highness of Jodhpur	...	...	31
The Nawab of Sachin	...	...	27
His Highness of Sangli	...	...	26

His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur: Your Excellency, Your Highnesses, I rise to thank Your Excellency on behalf of my brother Princes for the courteous attention with which you have listened to us and presided over our deliberations. It gave us pleasure to learn that Your Excellency was glad to see such a large and representative attendance of Princes at this session. This is an indication of the rehabilitation of the Princes interest in this Chamber and I hope this interest will continue and grow for the good of the Order.

It has been a matter of great satisfaction that the policy of bringing all the Indian States into direct relations with the Government of India has been pursued. This was a request which the States had made and the action which the Government of India has taken in the matter deserves the thanks of the Rulers of States. But there are still cases where the Rulers of certain States feel that their relationship with the Government of India is not as direct as it might be as there are more than one intermediaries between the State and the Government of India. It is hoped that Your Excellency will be pleased to look into such cases and make it easier for those who feel that their relations could be more simplified. The Princes are also thankful to Your Excellency for the steps taken by you since you assumed charge of your office to help the Princes by sending round your special representatives to explain to them points of doubt and detail regarding the States' accession to federation. The Princes recognise that these discussions have been helpful in clarifying many points. This bears testimony to the personal interest that Your Excellency takes in the welfare of the Princes.

As a result of the discussions which the States had with Your Excellency's representatives and between themselves, they have found with regard to the Instrument of Accession and schedules attached thereto that certain amendments, reservations and limitations are necessary for the proper safeguarding of the rights and privileges of the States and their Rulers.

The proposals which the States are able to evolve will be submitted to Your Excellency in order to ensure that the agreed standard Instrument of Accession contains provisions of general applicability requisite to safeguard the interest of the States. While it is recognised that the final decision regarding accession must rest with each State, the fact that the standard Instrument of Accession will be uniform to all States makes it necessary for the States together to co-operate in the work of producing

an instrument which would meet the requirements of States generally. It is hoped that Your Excellency will give due consideration to the proposals which are put forward by the Chancellor and the Standing Committee on behalf of States.

His Excellency the Viceroy: Your Highnesses, let me first of all thank His Highness who has just spoken, for the kind words which he has used in regard to my address. All Your Highnesses may rest assured that I shall give the closest personal attention to the several matters which he has raised in the words which have just fallen from him. Since I assumed charge of my present office it has been a great satisfaction to me to work with His Highness in the very responsible position which he has held as Chancellor of this Chamber, and I shall always look back with the utmost pleasure and satisfaction upon the relations which have existed between us in that regard. I am quite sure that I shall find it no less easy to work with his successor in the Chancellorship, whom Your Highnesses have chosen this morning and with His Highness the Jam Sahib of Nawanagar who has been elected to the important position of Pro-Chancellor.

Your Highnesses have made my task in the Chair a very pleasant one, and, if I may say so in the strict confidence of this Chamber, an easier one than some other Chairmanships which it has been my lot to hold.

I think it is the practice on this occasion to close our deliberations by a motion that this Chamber adjourn *sine die*. May I take it that it is the pleasure of Your Highnesses on this occasion?

His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala: With Your Excellency's permission I beg to propose a vote of thanks to His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Dholpur for having carried on the work of Chancellorship with such zeal and for the hard work he has put in. With these few words, Your Excellency, I will ask Your Highnesses to support my vote of thanks to His Highness.

His Highness the Raja of Bilaspur: I heartily support what His Highness has said.

His Excellency the Viceroy: I am quite sure that it will be the pleasure of the Chamber that this motion should be carried out.

(*Carried unanimously.*)

The Chamber then adjourned *sine die*.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY THE CHAMBER OF PRINCES (NARENDRA MANDAL) DURING THE SESSION HELD ON THE 24TH AND 25TH FEBRUARY 1937.

Agendum No. 1.

Resolution of condolence by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur on the demise of His late Majesty King George V.

Resolved.—The Ruling Princes and Chiefs of India, represented in this Chamber, request His Excellency the Viceroy to convey to His Imperial Majesty the King Emperor, the expression of their profound sorrow and grief on the sad demise of King George V, Emperor of India, to whose abiding interests in and great sympathies with the Order of Princes this Chamber owes its existence; together with their deepest and sincere condolences to Her Majesty the Queen Mother in her irreparable loss and other Princes of the Ruling family.

Agendum No. 2.

Resolution of felicitations and expression of loyalty by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur to His Majesty King George VI.

Resolved.—The Ruling Princes and Chiefs of India, represented in this Chamber, request His Excellency the Viceroy to convey to His Imperial Majesty King George VI, Emperor of India, the expression of their profound and steadfast loyalty to the Person and Throne of His Majesty, and their felicitations on his accession to the Throne and their earnest prayer that His Majesty may live long to rule over the Empire and his reign may further cement the bonds of loyalty which link the States of India with the Crown and the Empire.

Agendum No. 3.

Resolution of welcome by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur to His Excellency the Marquess of Linlithgow as Viceroy of India.

Resolved.—The Chamber of Princes offers a hearty welcome to His Excellency the Marquess of Linlithgow on the assumption of office of the Viceroy and Governor-General of India and tenders its sincerest good wishes to His Excellency.

Agendum No. 4.

Resolution of condolence by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur on the demise of Their late Highnesses the Mir of Khairpur, the Raja of Chamba, the Raja of Rajgarh and the Nawab of Radhanpur.

Resolved.—The Chamber of Princes records its heartfelt sorrow at the demise of Their late Highnesses the Mir Sahib of Khairpur, Raja Sahib of Chamba, Raja Sahib of Rajgarh and the Nawab Sahib of Radhanpur, together with its sense of loss thereby sustained by the entire Order of the Princes and offers its sincere sympathies and condolences to the bereaved families.

Agendum No. 5.

Resolution of welcome by His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur to Their Highnesses the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior, the Maharaja of Cooch-Behar, the Nawab of Radhanpur, the Mir of Khairpur, the Raja of Rajgarh and the Raja of Chamba.

Resolved.—That the Chamber of Princes offers its heartiest congratulations to Their Highnesses the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior and the

Maharaja of Cooch-Behar on their investiture with ruling powers and to Their Highnesses the Mir Sahib of Khairpur, the Nawab Sahib of Radhanpur, Raja Sahib of Rajgarh and the Raja Sahib of Chamba on their succession and wishes them a long and prosperous rule.

Agendum No. 6.

To receive a statement from His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur reviewing the work performed by the Chamber during the last two years.

Resolved.—That the Chamber expresses its high sense of appreciation for the work done by His Highness the Chancellor the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur and his Standing Committee by passing a vote of thanks.

Agendum No. 7.

To receive from His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur the reports of Sir S. M. Bapna and Sir V. T. Krishnamachari regarding their work as representatives of India at the meetings of the League of Nations held in 1935 and 1936 respectively.

Resolved.—That the Chamber places on record its appreciation of the work done by Sir V. T. Krishnamachari as the representative of the States on the Indian Delegation to the League of Nations, 1936.

Agendum No. 10.

Elections.

Resolved.—That according to the largest number of votes His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala be elected as Chancellor.

Resolved.—That according to the largest number of votes His Highness the Jam Sahib of Nawanagar be elected as Pro-Chancellor.

Resolved.—That the following Princes be elected as Members of the Standing Committee:—

His Highness the Nawab of Bahawalpur.
His Highness the Maharawal of Dungarpur.
His Highness the Raja of Bilaspur.
His Highness the Maharana Raj Saheb of Wankaner.
His Highness the Raja of Mandi.
His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner.
His Highness the Maharaja of Jodhpur.
The Nawab of Sachin.
His Highness the Raja of Sangli.

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